THE TABLOID Oh valentine 8 pages of passion



THE TABLOID Washington Post girl tells all



ESSAY Fisk in Ireland: In search of the border



The gangster regime we fund

Andrew Gumbel

Western governments have failed to heed clear warnings from their intelligence services that the Albanian government is deeply involved in or-ganised crime rackets.

According to a number of intelligence sources from different countries connacted by The Independent, classified documents have circulated in Western capitals for the last two years citing evidence of collusion and active participation by members of the ruling Democratic Party, including government ministers, in drugs traf-ticking, illegal arms trading and, until the end of the war in Bosnia. largo-scale sanctions-busting via oil sales to Serbia and Montenegro.

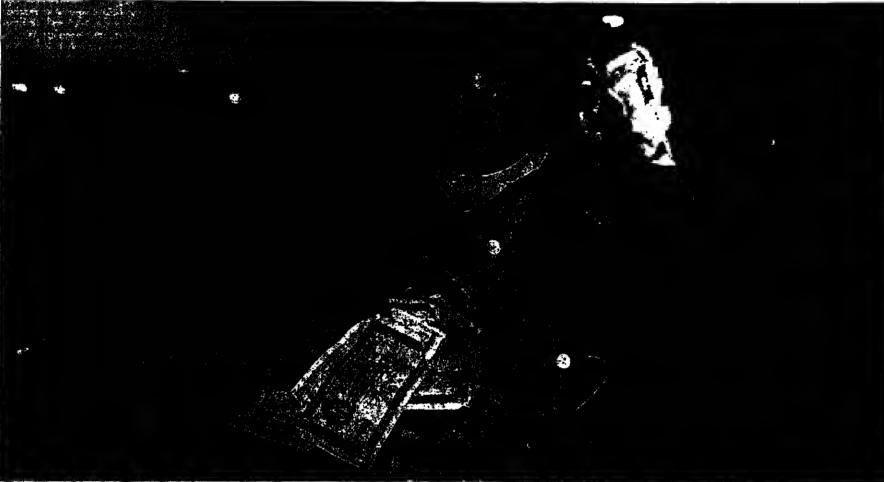
Yet the West, and Europe in particular, has pursued a policy of almost unconditional support for President Sali Berisha and his government. With the country now sliding into an-archy as a result of the collapse of a series of shady pyramid investment schemes, the belief that Mr Berisha could provide stability in one corner of the Balkans has been shattered. and the West must now ask itself why it did not see the debacle coming.

"I find it amazing that nobody has blown the fid on what has been going on in Albania because it is troly mind-boggling," one intelligence source said. "We have been passing this stuff on but nobody in government wants to know."

Politicians in France, Germany and Italy have continued to praise President Berisha in public as a man committed to peace, free markets and the democratic process. Britain established full diplomatic relations with Albania last years. At Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, sive tribute to John Major during the party state, where correption is rife at Foreign Secretary's visit and de all levels and a largely gangeter-based clared. "I want to thank all British recommy is under the strict clientelistic taxpayers for their aid to my coun- control of the ruling party. try*. Mr Berisha's Democratic Parby is even allied to the Conservative Albanian-dominated region con-ets goes all the way to the top and Party through membership of the En-trolled by Serbia, operate in Alba-have had no hesitation in naming concan Democratic Union, a group-

ing of centre-right parties.

I want to thank all British taxpayers for their aid to my country — Albania's President Sali Berisha



Drugs barons from Kosovo, the ma with impunity, and much of the transportation of heroin and other But intelligence services have been drugs across Albania, from Macereporting mambiguously that Alba-doma and Greece en route to Italy,

is believed to be organised by Shik, the state security police, in con-junction with police in the countries with which Albania shares a border.

Intelligence agents are convinced the chain of command in the rackministers in their reports. One minister suspected of direct involvement in running the drugs racket has been dropped from the govern-

ment, but another accuse of abus-ing his position to transport illicit goods is still in office. ly by the DP, was used to run guns

goods is still in office. During the war in Bosnia the company that enjoyed a monopoly on the import and export of oil was run directly by the Democratic Party and chaired by its chief, Tritan Shehu, now the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.

Intelligence sources further allege that Shqiponja, a company run open-

and drugs, and these rackets are coutinuing in other forms.

The pyramid schemes - the various pseudo-banks that succeeded in sucking in funds from almost every Albanian household with the promise of exorbitant interest payments before going bust - also have the government's fingerprints all over them. Two weeks ago, The In-dependent reported suspicions that

the schemes were buoyed up by the influx of funds from organised crime

and used for money-laundering. The biggest of all the schemes, run by Albania's largest private company Vefa Holdings, is identified closely with the government and has lavishly funded the DP's election campaigns. It is also under investigation in Italy for ties to the Mafias of Sicily, Calabria and Puglia.

For the first time this week, alle-

gations of criminal activity hehind he pyramid schemes has been algedin public by Western officials. Phy Luigi Vigna, Italy's chief anti-Mafa prosecutor, continued a report by a small business association that Italian organised crime groups had sunk money into the schemes to mise start-up capital for new ventures. He noted that Albania had become a significant producer of marijuans and was darbling in the cultivation of coca, the raw material for cocaine.

None of these allegations come as a surprise to ordinary Albanians who have long since lost faith in the dehave long since for tasth in the de-cency of their political system and have relied on the glodemic corrup-tion in the country to haul dismuscives out of poverty through various pri-vate scams. If archited I million peo-ple sank hard-way foreign currency into the pyramid charmes, it was part-



ly on a calculated assumption that the government was underwriting the operations with dirty money.

President Berisha and his government have been deeply umpopular for more than two years as their reputation as champions of democracy and free markets has been tarnished by increasing repression against the political opposition, the independent media and the institu-tions of state, starting with the judiciary, which have been purged of anti-government voices.

General elections held last May were denounced at home and abroad as invalid because of widespread voterigging and intimidation witnessed by international monitors from the Organisation for Security and Cooper ation in Europe. Albania has been a de facto one-party state ever since. Lo-cal elections held in October were almost certainly rigged as well.

Since the onthreak a month ago of rioting connected to the collapse of the pyramid schemes, there have been waves of mass arrests and reports of beatings in custody. Tirana, the capital, is awash with secret service agents and intellectuals and opposition figures have been attacked

Boeing superjet in safety probe

EXCLUSIVE

in Sestriere yesis

of cemph: Michael Ledi

WITH NIAG

Ror 6 September office

Lety tour - Niagara with

BCN Tower huncheon of

O GRAND PI

on 10 May o city tour of

personic to Nice o harchest

Monaco Grand Prix at la

private jet to Heathron

ORIENT-EXP

He on 12 April • seven me

non via Lanzarote, la plan non-Express to Victoria

Southampton on 27 May

Monte Carlo via Ghan

e aupersonic from Nice

> Southampton on 8 hard

and of the Midnight Sun of

arwegian Fjords and Sage

onic from Heathrow to Be

pht Oriana cruise to South

Southampton on 16 August

be to Tenerife via Praise

Concorde to Healhrow

pr fall releur brochurt.

51-992 7000

BLATIVE TRAVEL For Road, London, W3 655

sales Ramestr Franspert Correspondent

An investigation has been launched into the new genera-tion of superjet used by Boush Airways after one of the airline's planes began to roll mysteri-ously and had to return to

The Air Accidents Investi gation Board, the Government's safety adviser, is investigating the incident involving the £60m Boeing 777 after a team from the plane's manufacturers spent a week examining the jet, but failed to

reacha conclusion.

The BA flight 133, which was carrying 85 passengers to Jeddalian Saudi Arabia, was forced to return to Heathrow-airport after being in the air for a little over two hours when the

Political Correspondent

Ministers plans to impose min-

union seniences on persistent of-fenders were in disarray last

night after peers inflicted a damaging defeat on the Govern-

Opposition amendments to

give flexibility to judges were car-

ried by just eight votes after the

Home Secretary warned that the

move would "drive a coach and

horses" through the Crime Bill.

ment in the House of Lords.

aircrist stated rolling mysters
ously at 37,000 t, last October.
The cabin crew was first
alerted when a passenger ment
to a faindow noticed that the
wing diaps seemed to be moving randomly. When the first officer returned to the flight deck,
he was mable to understand the

he was mable to understand the actions of the aircraft's

compiles.

In its amandatory occurrence repair to the Civil Aviation Authority, the airline said that a "manual landing [was] carried out... large coulder input has required.

A team of Boeing engineers spent a week examining the airliner and guestioning cabin crew but were unable to explain crew but were unable to explain

was now monitoring its fleet of nother 15 - an order worth 25m. newly developed rudder systems spokeswoman.



Southisticated: The Boeing 777 uses catting-edge technology

777/s. "Safety is paramount for our customers. Our initial con-clusion is that the roll was caused by rudder movement, said a spokesman for the airline. The 777 is considered one of the most sophisticated in the

world. It uses the latest fly-by-

Crime Bill teeters after Lords defeat

confirmed that Michael Howard world attempt to repair his
Bill in the Figure of Commons.
The move may leave him exposed to a further revolt from

discretion for judges in exceptional circumstances, but peers
tional circumstances, but peers
to all the Holle Lord Bingham Lord Hailsham,
a Tory Lord Chancellor, also
voted against the Government.
Lord Bingham Lord Chancellor, also
voted against the Government.
They voted 180 to 172 for an
ponents to find a criminal jus-

amendment which would allow

judges to impose shorter sen-

tences on burgiars and drug dealers if they felt cirumstances

Among those who opposed the Government in the Lords

yesterday were the former Mas-

the incident. Parts were also tested in Boeing's headquarters wire technology. in Seattle, but technicians could . Produced by Boeing a little not explain the jet's random over three years ago, British movements.

British Annalys said that a min lave an option to buy an-

Once on the ground, the sir-

craft's black box flight recorder

revealed that the movement

was caused by "uncommanded"

rudder inovements which the

aircraft's sophisticated flight computer had tried to rectify by

Errant rudder movements

have spatked a controversial de-

bate in the aircraft world. Last

month. Washington ordered

airlines around the world to fit

tice system that worked better

courts to be able to decline to

pass sentences which are against

their professional or moral con-

sciences. Surely that isn't ask-

Labour home affairs spokes-

"All we are asking is for the

than the British one.

ing too much." he said.

using the flaps on the wings.

The changes were prompted by two unexplained crashes in the United States, which claimed more than 150 lives. Investigators suspect that they were caused by extreme rudder movements. Safety campaigners said they were "concerned" by the in-

vestigation. "Boeing were made to carry out changes on the 737s, but only after the US government acted. Will they now act on the 777?" said William Beckett, who lost his daughter in the Manchester disaster in 1985 and chairs a safety pressure group set up

afterwards. Boeing says that the company has been unable to replicate the "unusual" situation. "There have been no other occurrences of the incident by BA or any other 777 operator around the world, said a company

tosh of Haringey, said a huge va-riety of offences would be

losers, many dealers are them-

selves addicts who need treat-

ment rather than lengthy prison

ister Baroness Blatch said the

amendments would wreck the

Bill. They would allow judges to

make exceptions in all cases if

However, Home Office min-

"Many burglars are pathetic

covered by the measures.

sentences," he said.

they wanted, she said.

QUICKLY

Lawrence appeal The family of murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence said they were planning civil action for damages against white youths suspected of his stabbing. They appealed for help from

Ulster on alert

Security forces in Northern Ireland were on alert following the IRA killing of a soldier in South Armagh on Wednesday, which produced a wave of condemnation in Britain and Ireland and increased fears of a fresh spiral of violence. Page 5

Unionist rescue

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, gave a clear sig-nal that his party would save the Government from defeat when Labour brings its censure motion on Monday. Labour privately discounted defeating the Government.

Windfall promise Labour's new windfall tax, which is expected to "comfortably" raise at least £3hn, would form part of Gordon Brown's

Grobbelaar 'ploy'

Goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar told a court that he "played along" with his former business

partner, Christopher Vincent, to find out who was behind a plot to fix games,

Fallen hero

Revered Israeli military leader Gen Moshe Dayan looted archaeological sites and territories conquered by the Israeli army. He got away with it because he was a national hero who could do no wrong.

Isn't your loved one worth more than a bunch of flowers?

A dozen roses might seem very romantic, but there's a much better way to show your love. Life Cover from Abbey National could give your partner financial security for as little as £6 a month. To arrange your cover just phone us or call into your local branch.

0800 30 20 30

Shares23

Arts reviews 19

Rock/pop10-15 ABBEY Show you really care.

ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS. Lines are open Monday to Freder Kam to Piper or Saturday have to Open By united the in supporting our arrives we may record or manufact calls. Life assurance products are provided by Albert National Life, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Augh one Abbey National and the Univende Complete symbols are trademarks of Abbey National ple, Abbey House, Baker Street, Landon NWT Chi.



The move may leave him ex-posed to a further revolt from

some Conservative backbench-

ers who are known to be un-

third-time drug dealers and of

three years on third-time bur-

The Bill imposes compulso-

ry sentences of seven years on demanded it.

glars as well as imposing life sen-tences on second-time violent er of the Rolls, Lord Donald-

happy about the measures.

significant shorts

Detective warns Sams could strike again

The detective who helped capture Michael Sams yesterday warned that the killer "has nothing to lose by playing his games" and could strike again behind bars.

Sams, who was yesterday cleared of attempted murder hut convicted of false imprisonment for attacking a prohation officer in Wakefield Prison, is serving life for the murder of teenager Julie Dart and kidnap of estate agent Stephanie Slater. But West Yorkshire Detective Superinteodeot Boh Taylor, who

led the Julie Dart murder inquiry, said Sams eojoyed playing games with the authorities and was unlikely to stop.

"Sometimes what he does is for fame," he said. "I think a significant fact is that during the latest incident the Rose West trial

was oo and I suspect he didn't like heing knocked off the front page. He has nothing to lose by playing his games - he's got nothing else to amuse him.

"Sadly I don't think this will be the last thing we hear from him."

Call for register of childcarers Nursery nurses yesterday called for a national compulsory register of nannies and other childcarers amid concern that as many of half

of those calling themselves nannies may be unqualified.

The demand from the Professional Association of Nursery Nurses came after 18-year-old Louise Woodward, working in America as an au pair, was accused of murdering the nine-monthold baby in her care.

The Pann, whose 4,500 members all have formal nursery nursing qualifications, called for nannies and nursery nurses to be included in the national register of child minders held by local enthorities. Childminders are obliged to register, but nannies and nursery nurses are not. The organisation also underlined the difference between nannies and au pairs, like Ms Woodward, who are unqualified and are working primarily to gain experience of a foreign country. Lucy Ward

Beckett letters given to university



Trinity College in Duhlin yesterday received more than 680 letters written by playwright Samuel Beckett

(left) to a woman frieod. They were writteo over a 32year period to radio drama roducer Barbara Bray, who had a close personal and professional relationship with Beckett, and now lives in Paris. Ms Bray was at the ceremony in the university, where Beckett

studied modern languages in

Elton John cancels HK concert

Elton John's management company has pulled out of negotiations to stage two huge coocerts in Hoog Kong to mark the handover of the colony to China at the end of June.

The sticking point was the failure of organisers to gain a waiver to strict noise restrictions at the Hong Koog stadium. Couocillors were proposing that 40,000 concert goers each night should listen to Elton John oo headphones rather than allow noise levels to rise above 70 decibels. John Reid Enterprises said the noise restrictioo made it "impossible" to stage the concerts.

Furry Animal fined over cocaine

Rock star Huw "Bunf" Bunford, guitarist with the Super Furry Animals, was fined £700 yesterday for possessing cocaine found in his car. Bunford, 29, admitted possessing 2,65 grammes of cocaine worth £200. He was ordered to pay £54 costs by the Newtown

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

AustriaSch40	Mands F5.00
Belgum BFr80	taly L4,500
CananesPts300	Madera Esc325
Cyprus C£1.20	Matra 43 certus
Denmark Dkr18	Norway Nkr20
Irish Rep45p	Portugal Esc325
France Fr14	Spain Pis300
Germany DM4.5	Sweden Skr21
Greece Dr450	Switzerland . Shr4.00

bourg ...LF60 USA..... \$3.00

OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS Air mast, 13 weeks; Survey £110,76; Zone 1 #Addition East, America, Africa and India) £184.08; Zone 2 (Fai Fast and Austrateural #206.70. In order please servi cheque payable to Johnsons International Media Services Lad to 43 hittramour London E14 91R gredenhore 01.71. S36 8288. Orede cards welcome. BACK ESSUES

Back esses of the independent are available from: Histonic Newspapers, telephone 01988 840370.

people

The state of the s



Smooth operator: Sobhraj is escorted from court after being granted bail (Photograph: Re

Asia's Charles Manson to walk free after 20 years

travellers along the 1970s hippie trail, then drugged them and left a trail of bodies across Nepal, Thailand, and India, is about to walk free from New Delha's Tihar Jail after almost 20 years.

Charles Sobhraj, at 52, still has the lether charms of an Asian Charles Manson. Even from befind bars, his young female admirers become willing accomplices. In jall, he's had a string of fiancees - mostly foreigners held for dealing drugs. He has pledged to marry a Punjabl girl half his age just two days after his release - which may be this morning (Velening Day) or, more likely, on Monday. or, more likely, on Monday.
Sobhrai, who once boasted to his biographers that

he committed ten murders in 1976 alone, is more curning now and denies everything. Tregret the past, but don't ask me which part, he told reporters outside a ball hearing this week.

He bungled badly on 5 July, 1976, when he drugged a group of 60 French tourists in New Delhi; me dose. The mana er of the vivrati Hotel, aghast when the guests all collapsed in his lobby, summoned the police. Sobhraj also had his collar felt for another memorable felony: he seduced a dancing girl who occupied a strategically placed hotel room, then gagged her and tied her to the bed while he sawed through the floor and looted sacks of gems from the jewellery store directly underneath.

During his years in prison, Sobhrai has poured over law books and considers himself an expert on in-

ROMANCE!"

OF REMARKABLE

MELLGENCE

rious "budni murders" of five female tourists in fi viction and a death penalty, Sobhrai extended in sentence on purpose by masterminding in the rescape from the high-security Than Isil. On his birther day, he can receive and the research of t escape from the high-section. That said, on his burstday, he gave possoned sweets to the wardens and just,
waltzed free, along with a guilible British immere. David:
Hall, who he kined into the plot. He then flaunted hims
self as a high-profile fugitive in Goa until fodien put
for rearrested him. Absconding charges and the first him
in custody while his laviyer summoned in the first without orders are the gambit worked, and the Thet-shipper
tion orders are rearrested.

witnesses. The gambit worked, and the Three stand-tion orders expired this year.

Meanwhile, he has become new French and hero, and not only because he carries in French passport. His earlier escapes from prisons in Rhodes. The William Kabul, and the Greek Island of Aegina were cultotic and risky. But Sobhrai never swaggers, even though the basks in media attention and would knequently tele. intending to swipe their passports and cash, but phone reporters from his call. His voice is soft and dis-.armino."The man sucks curresity out of you."a orisor warden said. He even mariaged to win ever the Prison. Inspector General, Kiran Bedi, who was dismis ly from her post partly because she'd granted Sobbrai too many special privileges.

Recently, he sold a Paris production company the film rights to his life story for over \$16m. Once he picks: up his new passport, he will be free to roam again. He is still handsome with exotic features. You have been Jan McGirk, New Delhi

HEALTH

Cancer diagnosis can take up to three years

Patients with life-threatening cancers of the stomach and throat face waiting between 17 weeks and, in rare cases, three years before their condition is diagnosed and treatment begins, according to a report. In some cases, tumours, particularly of the stomach, could double in size at least once during this waiting period, and may severely affect the patient's chances of survival lain Martin, a consultant surgeon at Leeds General Infirmary, and colleagues, examined the time takeo to diagnose stomach or a threat of the storage of the stora

throat cancer in 115 patients. Their report, in tomorrow's issue of the British Medical Journal, says that the average delay from first symptoms to diagnosis was 17 weeks. The shortest wait was one week and the longest three-and-a-half years.

A quarter of patients faced delays of more than seven months before diagnosis. Delays occurred at all stages of consultation.

before diagnosis. Delays occurred at all stages of consultation, but the longest involved the hospital. Patients were usually quick to seek medical advice for their symptoms but "much of the delay in diagnosis could be avoided if GPs referred patients promptly for investigation, and a sense of urgency was imparted to the hospital's diagnosis process," the doctors said.

ENVIRONMENT

Action urged to curb traffic growth

Private car use will keep on rising, along with the harm it does society, unless Government takes much firmer action to prevent it, ministerial advisers warn today. The UK Round Table on Sustainable Development, set up after the Rio Earth Summit to advise the Government on long-term economic and environmental issues, reached its conclusions after making a study of

Northampton, a fast growing town near the M1 whose inhabitants and businesses are more car-dependent than the average.

Although the county and borough (town) councils had good intentions and wanted people to make more use of public transport, bicycles and walking, economic realities dictated otherwise. The councils either lacked the powers needed to act decisively in frances of water acceptance of the powers needed to act otherwise. The councils either tacken the powers needed to act decisively in favour of more environmentally friendly forms of transport or feared that if they did important local businesses should desert Northampton for other, more car friendly towns.

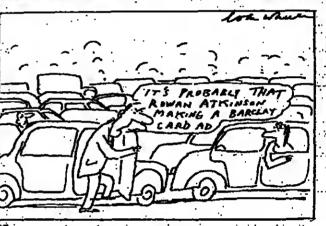
The report singles out Barclaycard, which employs 2,500 in Northampton. It moved from the town centre to a new site, on the

edge of town, which was poorly served by public transport, causing a large increase in car travel. The council did not dare to decline

planning permission for the move.

Getting Around Town, UK Round Table Secretariat, Room P1/021, 2

Marsham Street, London SW1P 3EB. Nicholas Schoon



Airport exodus is weatherproof

The number of people passing through Britain's major airports rose again last mooth, despite bad weather hitting flights, it was announced yesterday. BAA handled 6.7 million passengers at its en airports in January 1997 - a 5.2 per cent rise on the January 1996 figure. The annual increase would have been around 6 per cent were it not for fog affecting some London flights.

Despite this, Stansted enjoyed an 11.4 per cent increase last month, while oumbers at Gatwick were up 9 per cent, at Heathrow by 3. per cent and at Southampton up by 3.9 per cent. Edinburgh

airport handled 11.9 per cent more passengers in January.

Across the board, oumbers on North Atlantic routes were upper 12.2 per cent and other long haul rontes rose by 7.9 per cent. Domestic traffic increased 4.5 per cent, with Edinburgh's domestic numbers doing particularly well - rising by 15.5 per cent.

MOTORING

No calls please, I'm driving

merchices a new sec

MEDIA + Whether voice

bondearded civilian appro

communicator or a warman

(hungry for page after page of

appointment ads) you miss it at

Motorists using mobile phones are four times more likely to have. accidents than others, a survey suggests. Even those with in our phones that did not need to be hand-held were far more likely to have accidents than those in phone-free vehicles, it claimed.

The survey of 700 drivers with car phones, confinited by two Canadian doctors and published in the New England Journal of Medicine, concluded that mobile phones made accidents more likely not because drivers' hands were occupied but because concentration was distracted.





"SANDRA **BULLOCK IS** WONDERFUL"



RICHARD ATTENBOROUGH 112M



AT CINEMAS NATIONWIDE NOW

Life for road-rage killer who shot man in face after cars collided

An armed motorist who murdered one car passenger and eeriously wounded another in a "chilling" case of "road rage taken to its

extremes", was jalled for life yesterday. Lee Gardiner, 25, (right). a father-of-one from Tottenham, north London. told his victims "I've got something nice for you' before gunning them down on Bank Holiday Monday in May last year.

He shot the first one in the face, fracturing his jaw, and then pumped two bullets into the head of a second man, killing him Instantly.

The car dealer then turned to two terrified bystanders who had witnessed the shooting and boasted: "Me a bad

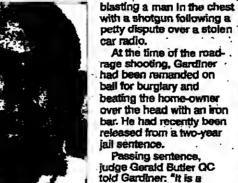
Southwark Crown Court jury who tried him took than two hours to convict him of murdering



Ghanaian Benjamin Worae, 34, a father-ofthree, and attempting to murder political refugee Kwame Davies, also 34,

After the unanimous verdicts, John Bevan, for the prosecution, revealed that Gardiner had a criminal record going

back to the early Eighties His convictions included one for wounding after



murdered one man and attempted to murder. another simply because they were in a car that was in collision with yours. "It is apparent from your

record and from these offences that you are a very dangerous man." He said Gardiner would have to serve a

chilling thought that you

mandatory life sentence for murder and a concurrent 15-year term for attempted murder.

Bad day for Penguin as new man takes over

In the latest chapter of the publishing world's roller-coaster tale of executive seat-swapping, former financial journalist Duncan Campbell-Smith was yesterday appointed head of group strategy for Penguin, just as the troubled publishing house announced £100m financial irregu-

Mr Campbell-Smith, 46, has been made responsible for "cfarifying key strategic issues" for the group, which has seen a major reshuffle of senior editing staff in recent months,

The former editor of the Financial Times' Lex column had a foretaste of trouble when he took charge of corporate relations for Pearson while its software arm, Mindscape, was heading for losses of £46m. But he stepped out of the fray to

attend an MBA course at the London Business School and then moved to Penouin, a subsidiary of Pearson, as bustness development director last May.

He was a journalist at the Financial Times for seven years before working as a management consultant. He is also the author of a book on the privatisation of British Airways, published in 1986.
The publishing world has lately been

enlivened with gossip generated by job-swapping in the upper echelons of the business. The top job at Penguin Group was recently taken by Helen Fraser, for-merly MD of the Reed Group of publishers, while Clare Alexander, who headed Viking, Penguin's classy-but-popular Im-print, quit to join Macmillan. Louise Jury Penguin Scandal, page 20

your peril.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.2% of

the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1998

hear

ligions undeterme

Excession of the second dieter and the second 4-4 Batterna die all beit. Mary words a North part Confe The state of the s the same of the same Bearing the Late

Millaren . torred Salar s contra to make al SAMELA CINA A SA ITSTORES TICKET IN THEATT BAUTICLE HERERS OFF ECORD SH MAURANTS WED SHOP

CORD SHO

Museum finds that money is no object

حكذا من الاعل

Visitors undeterred by introduction of £5 charge

Arts News Editor

THE INDEPENDEN

: can

years

the stomach and throat

nours, particularly of the

ice during this waiting mi's chances of survival

ceds General Infirmary

i to diagnose stomach or

M. in tomorrow's issue of

sverage delay from fire

more than seven month

stages of consultation, be

as were usually quick to

ed patients promptly for

e imparted to the hospial

traffic growth

ig with the harm it does firmer action to prevent

the Rio Earth Summit to onomic and environment thing n study of the M1 whose inhabitant

t than the average. rwn) councils had good more use of public nic realities dictated

be powers needed to act ntally friendly forms of ore car friendly towns.

which employs 2,500 m centre to a new site, on the by public transport cards is

Secretariat, Room P1/021:

PROBABLY THAT

atherproof

ther hitting flights, it was

7 million passengers at it

per cent rise on the James

d have been around oper

A per cent increase last

a up 9 per cent, at Health

by 3.9 per cent. Edinburgh

h Atlantic routes were up

with Edinburgh's domest

er times more likely to be is. Even those with ind

e vehicles, it claime bones, conducted by e New England Journal

occupied but because

iter page of

ou miss it at

es rose by 7.9 per cent.

g by 15.5 per cent.

driving

mengers in January.

London flights.

Nicholas Schor

low where

but much of the delay in

to shortest wait was one

are cases, three years treatment begins.

Attendances at the Victoria and Albert Museum have actually increased since it controversially introduced compulsory charges last autumn, figures obtained by The Independent show.

The increase in visitors threatens the argument advanced by arts campaigners, the Labour Party and several

major museums that charging frightens people away.

Only last week, Tony Blair, the Labour Party leader, expressed his concern about the v & A charging. Key figures in the museums world, including the directors of the British Museum and National Gallery, have repeatedly spoken out against charging, and warned

that attendances would in-evitably decline.

The V & A attendance figures have not been publicised by the museum anthorities. But insiders are struck that there has been no decline in attendances, and the public has not shared the hostility of the professionals to charging.
The V & As success may now

bring further pressure on the British Museum to introduce admission charges. After much public debate last year, the mu-Scam's trustees ruled against charging for the time being. The directors and trustees of the Na-tional and Tate Galleries have ruled out charging, but the Science, Natural History and Imperial War Museums all now charge for admission to sup-plement their government grant.

In his first speech on the arts, Tony Blair joined the clamour against the V & A charging admission, saying: "We are concerned about the introduction of admissions charges in national museums. The evidence suggests that high charges can lead to a big decline in atten-

The figures, however, show that since charges were introduced at the beginning of October last year, weekly visitor numbers have either remained steady or gone up. For most of September, while voluntary charges were in force, weekly atances howered around the 18,000 mark. In November, they never fell below 20,000. In the last week of the Christmas holidays they were 25,000, one of the highest of the year. The



Pulling power: The number of visitors to the V & A has actually gone up since charges came in

total for 1996 was 1.27 million, compared with 1.22 million for 1995.

month, with compulsory £5 charges, the figures rose to 85,653. With the initial public-Key comparisons show that the total number of attendances for January 1996 (with voluntary figures for October 1996 were

27,000 down on the same charges) were 82,974. Last month for 1995, but they immediately houseed back in November with a 3,000 jump on the

1995 figure. The rise in figures is not

hosting any blockbusters or major temporary exhibitions. The main exhibition of last year, the William Morris exhibition, ended in September.

in addition, the museum's own private research among visstors shows that only a tiny minority shared the campaigners' worries on charging, Less than 5 per cent of visitors complained about having to pay for entry, while large numbers voiced concern about non financial matters such as how big the typeface was on labels or how clean the lavatories were.

Looking back over the years. sion to the V & A was at its highest when it was comletely free with 1.6 million in 1984, the year before voluntary donations were introduced; it fell to 900,000 in 1990, rose to milition in 1994 and was 1.27 million last year. Even the

even distorted by the museum 1.6 million high in 1994 cannot be taken as a wholly accurate figure as attendance figures were only estimated before the

introduction of charging.

The V & A introduced a compulsory admission charge of £5 last October with a concessionary rate of £3 and annual season tickets for £15. They balanced this with a number of exempt groups to counter the argument that poorer and younger people would be put off by having to pay. Everyone un-der 18 is allowed in free as are pre-booked education groups, disabled people and their car-ers and UB40 holders. There is universal free entrance between 4.30 and 6pm every afternoon.

When the decision was announced, the museum came in for much criticism; Julian Spalding, director of Glasgow Mu-seums, called it "a diminution

Valentine's Day makes burning issue for lovers' hearts

Jojo Moyes

British women's idea of a romantic evening is sharing a bottle of wine in front of the fire, according to one of the latest batch of Valentine's surveys, which show that as 14 February dawns, Britain is latching onto ever-more far-fetched ways of exploiting the most romantic or disappointing - day of the

It is unlikely that the words "romance" and "smokeless fuels" have often been uttered in the same breath. But the Coalite company lit on Valen-tine's day as an excuse to ask:

Furthermore, 44 per cent of men and 37 per cent of women claim to have already done so.

The next most popular fireside activities were sharing wine and chocolates, cuddling, toasting a crompet, and watching television or a video. Nine per cent claimed to prefer an undisclosed "other", while 4 per cent "didu"t know".

Meanwhile, dispelling the notion that women are turned off by hot air, a survey published

baller Alan Shearer, actor Jean-Claude Van Damme and Paul

fered numerous websites for people who preferred to sub-"What is the most romantic thing you can do in front of a clare their passions with the real fire?"

"What is the most romantic stitute Roms for roses and detailed the clare their passions with the clare th people said it was making love. and, for those who forgot, Mark's Apology Note General

> to deliver Valentine's marriage proposals for lovers. For a small e, the 42-year-old from Cardiff also offered to bellow And even the environmental campaigners Friends of the

> sary of Cosmopolitan inagazine placed the ginger-bearded en-trepreneur Richard Branson second only to actor Sean Bean as its readers' "ideal man". He was followed by foot-

> McCartney. Comedians David Baddiel and Jim Carrey took sixth and seventh place; fol-lowed by actor Kenneth Branagh, television doctor Hillary Jones and, finally, Oa-sis star Liam Gallagher. Meanwhile, the Internet of

For a slightly more personal, if noisier touch, town crier Gra-ham Vedmore offered himself

out Valentine's Day love poems. Earth got in on the act, by proposing a few tips for green lovers. They included saving on



Roses all the way: A trader at New Covent Garden market in Nine Elms, south London, anticipating brisk business supplying Valentine's Day tributes Photograph: David Rose

energy by spending the day in bed logether, bathing or show-ering with a friend and, for those with a sense of "adventure", using recycled handcuffs that had finished duty chaining road protesters to diggers.

charity Relate issued a warning to couples on the most romantic day of the year, stressing that "love is for life, not just for

sation is launching three sobering courses to coincide with Valentine's Day - on love and marriage, on anger manage-ment and, finally, on surviving the break-up.

And, perhaps mirroring many people's experience of the

day, a St Valentine's ball arranged for a group of teenagers had to be cancelled - due to a lack of interest from the boys. More than 50 girls applied for tickets for n dance to be held at Owlesbury parish hall

near Winchester in Hampshire,

in aid of the Samaritans, but the organisers received no applications at all from any boys. The dance was due to take

place on 15 February, and it was hoped it would raise at least £1,000 for Winchester Samaritans to help renew a vital tele-

chairman of the Friends of the Samaritans, said: "The cancellation is obviously n disappointment - but you can't have a tecnage Valentine's ball with-

The property of the property o

out hoys.

The Tabloid

But some organisations yes-Valentine's Day". The organi-BEHEALTH SPAS FLORISTS HOTELS AS ART GALLERIES TAKEAWAYS GRE TERERS 0 **PS** DEPARTMENT HEALTI S OUTSIDE C IFT SHOPS IR **JEWELLERY** CHEMISTS SHOPS IR HOTELS LERY

For Valentine's Day one free call finds them all.

Whatever you're planning for your Valentine this year, Freepages are here to help. One free call on 0800 192 192 puts you in touch with millions of businesses in 2500 classifications nationwide. So, whether it's chocolates for Cuddles, flowers

for Flopsy, or a last minute surprise for Snookums, our friendly operators will help. Just tell us what you need and where you need it, we'll do all the searching for you. For a special Valentine's

Day, one free call finds them all.

FREEPAGES 10 0800 192 192

http://www.freepages.co.uk REEPAGES & ALSO AWALABLE FREE ON VODAFONE BY DIALING '333'



No, just one... an even better service.

You may have heard about the demerger of British Gas into two separate companies. This means the Transco pipeline and international activities will be operated by BG plc, and the supply, servicing and retail activities will be managed by a new holding company. Centrica plc, trading under the British Gas brand.

Rest assured, though, changes to our corporate structure will not result in any immediate changes to the service we provide to our 19 million customers. Our commitment to providing you with the best possible value for money remains as strong as ever.

This means that you will still be able to rely on our unrivalled expertise in the safe supply of gas to your bome. You will still be able to rely on the 24 hour emergency service, operated by Transco. And, as a British Gas customer, you will still be able to take advantage of all the other products, services and payment plans on offer.

However, because the demerger will allow us to focus even more on you, our customers, we'll be well placed to provide even better service and innovative new products in the future.

Which is good news for us and even better news for you.

Soldie raise enew

Lawrence white you

BUOY 3 MEMBERS
FIHE RS

Soldier's killing raises fears of renewed violence

David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent

The IRA shooting of a soldier in south Armagh on Wednesday night produced a wave of conation in Britain and Ire-

As fears increased of a fresh spiral of violence in Northern Ireland in the wake of the killing, the Royal Ulster Constabulary said last night that a bomb left on a housing estate in Co Armagh had been de-fused. The anti-personnel device containing Seintex, nuts and bolts was found during search-es of the Kilwilkie estate in Lur-gan, where a rifle and pistols had been discovered on Wednesday.

The general dismay in Britain and Ireland at the latest casualty of the troubles was tinged with poignancy when it emerged that the victim was a popular young soldier who was of IRA snipers in south Armagh shot in the back as he spoke to a female motorist in south

Armagh. Yesterday brought oumerous appeals to loyalist paramilitary groups not to become involved in violent retaliation for the killing. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Sir

The soldier who died was Lance Bombardier Stephen

Restorick, 23, a single man serving with the 3rd Regiment of the Royal Horse Artiflery. His family live in Peterborough. His mother, Ritz, said yester-

day: "He was last home at Christmas for a week but we hardly saw him because he was always out. He was full of life and you would only see him for an hour at a time. He was always out with his friends or at a disco or something. He was a normal young man en-joying himself. I don't want this to be the thing that starts off the

troubles again."

The killing marked the return to violent life of the IRA's south Armagh units, which have been unusually quiet recently. It also confirms that the security forces have yet to develop effective counters to the lethal activities and other border districts.

Between 1992 and 1994 nine members of the security forces - six soldiers and three police officers - died in single-shot sniping incidents. Nine of the last 10 soldiers killed in Northern Ireland prior to the IRA's August 1994 ceasefire died in Patrick Mayhew, said: "Don't Co Armagh. Of these, six were lower yourselves to the standards, the level, of the people cidents. In addition, three RUC

similar suiping attacks.

Condemnation of the killing was led by John Major and the Taoiseach, John Bruton, who told the Dail in Dublin: "The IRA campaign is anti-Irish, and contrary to the interests of all

in Ireland."

Labour's spokeswoman on
Northern Ireland, Marjorie Mowiam, said that her party had a host of ideas for reviving the peace process, pledging: "We will not respond to violence of that kind. We will be as tough as this government has been." David Ervine of the Pro-

gressive Unionist Party, which is closely associated with the paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force, described the situation as "particularly dangerous." He added: "Northern Ireland is a rather unstable place at the mo-ment but loyalist politicians are doing everything we can to stop a slide back to loyalist vi-

olence - we are not giving up." Mitchel McLaughlin of Sinn Fein refused to condemn the killing, saying that he would not "play word games". He de-clared: "There is an opportunity available on the other side of the British general election with a strengthened British



ent."

Law enforcement: Police guarding the Royal Courts of Justice, which were sealed Robert Fisk, page 18

Courts of Justice, which were sealed off yesterday after a woman with a gun threatened two judges Photograph: Jason Bye

Woman in gun threat to appeal court judges

Matthew Brace

Two judges were threatened in the Royal Courts of Justice in carrying what was believed to be an imitation handgun.

The dark-haired woman, who was wearing a green ancrak and believed to be in her early twenties, walked calmly in to Court No 7 through a door normally used by solicitors and up

the steps to the judges' bench.
Aconding to Michael Stokes,
QC, a barrister who had just
walked into the court room to oppose an appeal in a murder case, the woman then took out the gun and pointed it at two semor Court of Appeal judges - Lord Justice Beldam and Mrs Justice Bracewell. A third judge, Mr Justice Mance, man-aged to scramble out of a door

and raise the alarm. The woman shouted: "I have been assaulted, I'm tired of

waiting."
Mr Stokes said as he walked in to the court, she turned and pointed the gun at him. "She looked at me and said: 'You. don't move". I was about 20 feet

away," he said.
"My junior, Amjad Malik, who was in front of me, said: There's a woman pointing a gun at you'. So I turned around and walked out again, "said Mr Stokes, adding: "I must admit the gun didn't look real. It kusked more like a Rambu-type

Another barrister, Tom MacKinnon, who was conducting an appeal in the court when the woman walked in, said that Lord Justice Beldam and Mrs Justice Bracewell deserved medals for bravery. The woman pointed the

gun at the judges and said: People will be shot unless my appeal is heard today. The have taken my children'. Mr Justice Mance calmly left the court to raise the alarm while his fellow judges urged the woman to put down the gun."
Mr MacKinnon said Mrs Justice Bracewell told the woman: "Why don't you put your gun down, Let's consider

Armed police evacuated the courts, situated in the Strand in central London, and sealed them off along with the surrounding streets as they

searched for the woman Court No7 is on the first floor of the Royal Courts building. near to the courts of the Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls.

The woman is believed to be known to the courts' security staff. A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said yesterday that there was "no suggestion" that any-one had been taken hostage by the woman. She added: "As far as we know nobody has been hurt or taken hostage in the incident."

Yesterday evening at 5.30pm the courts were still sealed off.

Lawrence family to sue white youths over death

David Garfinkel

The grieving family of the murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence yesterday announced they were planning civil action against white youths suspected of his brutal stabbing.

Speaking on behalf of the family, their solicitor, Imran Khan, appealed for witnesses to come forward to help assist. the action for damages after an inquest into his death decided he was unlawfully killed.

taking further legal action against those individuals we think may have been responsible in some way and we hope during these proceedings no one can possibly claim privilege." The family has also decided

to lodge a formal complaint against the conduct of the police officers who investigated the murder scene. They maintain the police failed to carry out a thorough search based on an anonymous tip-off they received, and did not use the crim-

them to track down the suspects before vital evidence was lost. Outside Southwark coroners' court, south London, a prepared statement by Stephen's mother, Doreen Lawrence, 44, was

read out. "There were times this week when I was not sure whether I was in a court room listening to evidence of how my son was killed or at a circus watching a performance. It became a

What was coming across for me was that none of the officers saw fit to go round to known suspects' homes even to eliminate them from the inquiry. "Right from the start on the

night our son was murdered, it seemed that in the minds of the police he was only a black boy, so why bother. No one can convince me otherwise." She added: "There are two

questions I would like the po-lice to answer: Are all the officers trained in basic first aid or

want to get their hands dirty with a black man's blood?"

Mrs Lawrence broke down in tears on hearing the verdict of unlawful killing, after the jury agreed Stephen had died from an unprovoked attack by five white youths.

On directing the jury, the Southwark coroner, Sir Montague Levine, said it would be perverse to give any other verdict. This was an horrific crime was unlawfully killed. mockery of trying to get to the and totally unprovoked in which are strongly considering truth," she said. attacked an unsuspecting which resulted in him bleeding to death", he said.

. Five white youths were accused of murdering the promising A-level student as he waited for a bus in Eltham, south-east. London, in April 1993, but the charges were dropped by the Crown Prosecution. A private prosecution by Mrs Lawrence also failed.

The Metropolitan Police said they had done all they could to find Lawrence's killers.



KMAN PERSONAL STEREO

Just connect to any one of these three superb GSM digital A FREE SONY WALKMAN PERSONAL STEREO WITH ANY OF THESE TOP GSM DIGITAL PHONES! phones and get a Sony Walkman

personal stereo absolutely free.

NO LINE RENTAL FOR 12 MONTHS

The perfect package with no line rental worries for a year. Pay just £169.99 . 000

and get the superb Nokia 1610 and 12 months line rental.

And 25 minutes of free calls. Vodafone PrePay - the ideal way to own a mobile phone with no strings.

ALL FOR ONLY

SONY CM-DX 1000e NEC 68 MOTOROLA FLARE

The second secon

Help protect our birds, wildlife and countryside

OUR WONDERFUL birdlife and countryside need

protecting. Help them-join the RSPB-and by using the form below you'll get all these superb benefits too: Your first 3 months' membership absolutely free... FREE entry to over 100 RSPB nature reserves... Birds, the RSPB's award-winning 96-page colour magazine 4 times a year...

And when you join, you know you're helping to protect our beautiful natural heritage for generations to come.

PLUS A FREE VIDEO You'll receive this Videoguide to British Garden Birds narrated by David Altenborough if you reply within 28 days.

YES - I would like to join the RSPB FREE for a months and have completed the Direct Debrt form opposite. If I do not wish to continue my membership aft the 3 month free trial period can cancel the Direct Debit

1 am applying within 28 days Videoguide to British Garden Bir

CHOOSE 🗆 Single membership £5.50 a quarter temble 6700 a gnaries bership £8.50 a qq

Mr/Mrs/Mes/Ms

DIRECT DEBITING INSTRUCTION 991172 I/We instruct you to pay Direct Debits for account with you at the request of the RSPB. Please pay the RSPB Direct Debits from the accordenated on this instruction subject to the safegus assured by the Direct Debit Guarant t/We will inform the bank in writing if 1/we (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

iety for the Protectan of Blads, The Lodge. hire SG19 2DL. Registered charsty no 20076.

ir unrivalled

will still be able to

and co. And, as a

entage of all the

cus even more of

n better service and

ir you.

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS



Major deserves credit for straightforwardly arr-Major swering one of Blair's four specific questions (albeit on the second time of asking). For the rest of the time he resorted to aquating Blair's criticism of the Government with criticism of

Blair put Major on the spot with his questions on beel. After that, he only had to point out that Major didn't want to answer them. He justifiably reminded Major that BSE has been said to stand for "blame someone else" - on this occa-

· The effect of state subsidies within the EU (John Wilkinson, C. Ruislip

The state of the nation and need for a general election (Paddy Ashdown).
 The unemployment figures (David Marshall, Lab, Glasgow, Shettleston).
 The Conservative and Labour parties (Stephen Day, C, Chéadle).

BLAIR'S ATTACK

Given the subject of Monday's censure motion, Major might have expected. Blair to attack on beef. Blair asked him to confirm that neither the promised and of the European ban not the start of selective slaughter had yet come about; and that the cost of the BSE crisis has been £3:3bm, Major blamed Harriet Harman, Labour's former spokeswoman on health, for "a very substantial part of the damage caused by the BSE crisis.



to the opposition benches, where "I have been keeping this seat warm. He over there" and Major, "the realnarrated his vision in which a defeated thing". That is expected to be one Major had to "vote for one of those Tory bastards" (Radwood, Portillo or themes. Howard) in a leadership contest,

Labour "the gale pink imitation

Marshall alleged that an employment minister had admitted: "only half of the fall in unemployment figures are genuine". He mused: "which half of these figures are we to believe?"

THE UNANSWERED QUESTION shdown listed Britain's problems, and asked: "When will the with it?". Major concentrated on the list, not the question.

Nan Haselhurst (C. Sattron Walden) asked the customary ques-



In step: Douglas Hogg leaving Downing Street yesterday after receiving the backing of the Cabinet in his bid to defeat Labour's censure motion

MATSUL 192A

Ulster MPs set to save Major in beef debate

Colin Brown and **Anthony Bevins**

David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, last night gave a clear signal that his party will save the Government from defeat in Monday's crunch vote in the Commons when he said he was "irritated" by the lack of consultation over Labour's tac-

Senior shadow cabinet ministers privately discounted the chance of inflicting defeat on the Government, with at least two of the nine Ulster Unionist MPs expected to be away from the vote, but Labour insisted it was right to force John Major on to the defensive.

Tony Blair has decided to launch an attack over the "mad cow" crisis because he believes that it is John Major's biggest weak spot. "He thinks it is Ma-jor's poll tax," a leadership source said last night.
Agriculture Minister Douglas

Mr Hogg, who was in confident mood yesterday after getting the backing of the Cabinet, will open the debate for the Gov-ernment. "We are going to win," he told colleagues. "I am looking forward to it."

Mr Major will go on the of-fensive against Labour next Thursday in a Commons debate on constitutional reform, which he believes is Mr Blair's Achilles' heel.

The Labour leader in the Commons challenged Mr Ma-jor over the fact that the beef export ban had not been lifted, promised, last November and that not a single animal had been slaughtered under the selective cull scheme.

He also pointed ont that Britain had not yet put a formal proposal to Brussels about liftng the export ban for BSE-free herds in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and that the fiasco had already cost £3.3bn.

The Prime Minister retaliat-

United they stand: John Major and David Trimble



ed, hiaming Labour for whipping up the scare about the safe-ty of beef. "I find your behaviour throughout this whole crisis absolutely astonishing," Mr Major. told the Labour leader. "Not once have you put the interests of the British beef industry in front of making petty party political points."

The Ulster Unionist leader said Labour's attempt to pass a censure motion against Mr Hogg for his handling of the beef crisis was "not helpful" to the Ulster Unionist hopes of getting final approval in the European Union for the specified herd scheme which could allow the ban on exports to be lifted on Ulster before the rest of the UK. "I was not aware they

were going to do it," Mr Tem-hle said. "It was more than a lit. tle irritating that they failed to

onsult us."
The Government could being forward proposals for a North em Ireland grand committ vet legislation in the Commens. meeting a key Ulster Uniquist demand, but sources said it was more likely to be held in reserve for a later confidence vote, if the Tories lose heavily in the Wirral South by election

Mr Trimble was annoyed that the plan to force a censure motion was not raised when he met Mo Mowlam, the Labour spokeswoman on Northern Ireland, on Wednesday morning for talks about Labour's approach to policing the marching season in Ulster. Ms Mowlam sent Mr Trimble a message veste making it clear she also was not aware of the plan until shortly before it was agreed by the Shadow Cabinet.

The Liberal Democrats were. also irritated at not being consulted. A source said: "We are going to vote with Labour but we are not busting a gut to get everyone here."

A number of Ulster Unionist MPs will be away for the vote, including the party's agriculture spokesman, Willie Ross, who is. in New Zealand. The vote clashes with a BSE debate in the European Parliament, which could force Ian Paisley, who is also an MEP, to miss the vote. John Taylor said he had a constituency event, and Martin Smyth, the UUP whip, made it clear he was unlikely to vote:

against the Government.
The reluctance of Mr Trimhle to commit his force of nine. MPs to vote against the Goverament underlines the difficulty Tony Blair faces in trying to bring down the Government before Mr Major's preferred election date of I May.

Leading article, page 17 Commentary, page 19

CHOOSE FROM BRITAIN'S BIGGEST RANGE OF PERSONAL STEREOS







In-store Price £79.99.

EXCLUSIVE TO DSG RETAIL LTD





Police warning on sex offenders

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Police chiefs are opposing moves to alert neighbours of the presence of sex offenders in their community despite at-tempts by Labour, and possibly the Government, to introduce new anti-paedophile laws.

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) has warned Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, that telling communities that a sex crimina has moved into the neighbour-hood would be counter-pro-ductive and place children at greater risk. Opposition by chief officers would be a stumbling block to any new legislation. Mr Howard told a conference

last Tuesday that he was considering introducing communi-ty notification of paedophiles. Labour has already tabled an amendment to the Sex Offenders Bill calling for the controlled disclosure of names and addresses of convicted sex of-fenders to child-protection workers, schools and in some cases members of the public. But following a survey of the 43 police forces in England and Wales, chief constables have

come out against greater dis-closure. They say that warning neighbours will merely drive sex offenders underground and could lead to vigilante action. The have also stressed that the police already warn probation of-ficers and the social services and carry out surveillance opera-tions on offenders considered dangerous. Tony Butler, Chief Constable

of Gloucestershire and ACPO spokesman on children-protection and sex-offender issues, said: "What is the point of telling residents? This could lead to picketing of homes or houses being burnt down. Sex offenders are some of the most devious individuals who will not sit around if they are identified. They will change their names and identity. I would rather know where these peo-ple are so that the police can keep track of them."

A Bill now going through Parliament sets up a national reg-ister of sex offenders, enabling the police to track the movements of convicted paedophiles

Locking horns over thorny issue

Stormy weather. So febrile is the Westminster atmosphere, that even the divine Dame Peggy Fenner—who once used to grace the benches with her imperturbable (and, I think, impenetrable) calm, as though sit-

furbable (and, I think, impenetrable) calm, as though sting for a still-life – has begun to gesticulate and point at the Opposition during the shouty bits.

But things were calm when Tony Banks (Lab, Newhang, NW), a true friend to animals everywhere and Chelsea fan, asked the Treasury minister and YC heart-throb Phillip Oppenheim, about the world trade in powdered thing horn. Mr Oppenheim – unique among ministers – chose not to speculate on how many rbings would be likely to die if there were a minimum wage. Instead he taid ly to die if there were a minimum wage. Instead he laid into the Chinese, who dominate this illegal commerce. He thought it "paradoxical", he said, "that the most populous nation on earth seems intent on wiping out the rhino, singply because some of their menfolk are incapable of per-

It was unfortunate that this punchy reply was still being digested when Harry Greenway (C, Ealing North) got up to ask a supplementary. Mr Greenway is, in his way, a living embodiment of political impotence. It is not that the member fails to rise; he does, and often. Nor is there a problem with achieving a climax; a noisy one is practically guaranteed. It is simply that he reminds everyone of how ridiculous the act can be when performed in a particular way. His (doubtless important) intervention was lost amid

But Mr Greenway is a reminder that most MPs need no artificial stimulation to get them aroused. The game of Synthetic Indignation being played by ministers and their supporters yesterday was about the windfall tax, and its horrific impact upon pensioners, small shareholders and the almost extinct white rhino. Michael Jack, the Financial Sacretary. cial Secretary, responding to a series of tame questions from his pals, used the word "cynical" no less than six times to describe Labour's Gordon Brown. It reminded me that earlier I had heard Michael Howard suggesting that Labour was "cynical and opportunistic" - a trace of admiration clearly detectable in his voice.

On the benches opposite, however, Labour was givingas good as it got. The two tone shadow Chief Secretary, Alistair Darling, raised his hlack eyebrows from under-neath his white hair (a characteristic he shares with Morticia Addams and - more gruesomely- Norman Lamont) and accused Mr Jack of being more keen on "jumping into bed with the boardroom fat-cats". A nice piece of hysterical scansion, if ever I heard one.

Then the pale, slightly squat Angela Eagle, dressed all in scarlet, and looking like the eponymous terminator from Attack of the Killer Tomatoes, asked Ken Clarke (in the tinkly little, acidic voice that you imagine a killer tomato might have) exactly how many times Value Added Tax had been increased or levied since 1979? It was a goolle shot, and Ken Clarke looked pained.

Labour has other ways, however, of keeping its pecker up. Morale was also being maintained by the toothsome Jane Kennedy (Lab, Liverpool Broadgreen). Ms Kennedy, a whip, has realised what many commentators have forgotten: that a large number of Labour MPs are not softy southern sophisticates, but Northern men of mature years men who would not look out of place in a crowd scene from Last Of The Summer Wine.

Ms Kennedy weaves her spells simply by sitting next to one of the dear old chaps, smiling at them, passing a kind word – and then moving on. It works a treat. David Winnick grins, William O'Brien blushes, Peter Hardy glows.

All are happy – and it's so much cheaper than rhino hom.

E 1907 - THE INDEPEND

were going to do it "let ble said, "It was more the arrivating that hope consult us."

The Government of Government o

Mr Trimble was and
the plan to force a contion was not raised what
Mo Mowlan, the le
spokes woman on Note
land, on Wednesday me
talks about Labouriae
to policing the message
in Ulster, Ms Mowlang
Trimble a message Trimble a message re making it clear she she aware of the plan mi before it was agreed Shadow Cabmet The Liberal Demog

also irritated at nothing sulted, A source site going to vote wihle we are not busing the everyone here." A number of Ulsel. ist MPs will be awaring including the panyage spokesman, William in New Zealand L

clashes with a BSEdde European Parlianes could force ian Parky also an MEP to met Sec. A Sec. As a sec. A John Taylor saidleig Stituency event, and Smyth, the UUP sing clear he was unfint against the Governor The reluctance of ble to commithishe

MPs to vote against culty Tony Blair fang to bring down the Goe before Mr Majorie election due of the Leading ming

ing horns horny issu

divine Dame Pegg For competerable calm a shape begin to gesticulate and should be shou

a river and YC heart-the the world trade in post the world trade in pust the many mines well frow many rhines well toninate this illegal commi-tae said, "that the means on wiping out the his steenfolk are incapable."

That this punchy reply was dis-Mr Greenway is in his of the first importance. It is not The state of the s

In a rominder that most like the played to minister them are used. The grant them are need to minister them are need to minister them are need to minister them. Another lack the player than a series of time questions in a series of time question. considerers, small starchief the chine, Alichael lack the stage to a series of tame question to a series of tame question of Cardon frontal moles had and opportunistic the start Michael Howard suggestion of the start of the st

ind or levicel since in a control of the levicel since in the levice in

mover Hore.

In her apails surply by calling the party of them provided them provided them provided them by the party of them blushes. Peter both the party of a not much cheaper than the party of the party of



Mark the "BOTH" box on your playslip and your numbers will be entered into both the Saturday and Wednesday draws. Each set of numbers costs £1 per draw.

IT COULD BE YOU. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®





If you buy any product from Comet, then within 14 days find the same offer on sale locally at a lower price, we'll willingly refund the difference.

China Market Committee China China Market Committee China China Market China

on sale locally at a lower price, we'll

willingly refund the difference,

PLUS 10% OF THAT DIFFERENCE Ask in store for full details.



- Intel 133MHz Pentium processor

HEWLETT PACKARD

COLOUR INKJET PRINTER

- Up to 3 pages per minute
- 600 x 600 dpi print quality Exclusive software bundle:
- Print Shop Deluxe and Myst Model DJ400 normally £159.99

BUY NOW PAY FEB 1998

SALE OFFER FREE COLOUR PRINTERA

MULTIMEDIA PC/PRINTER PACKAGE FROM ONLY £29.99 PER MONTH

Buy the PC you need today and spread the cost by making a monthly payment that best suits your budget. These examples show what the monthly payment would be when spread across a 36 month period. (Interest will be charged at 19.9% APR, variable). Subject to acceptance.

PRODUCT	PRICE	(Min. 10%)	PAYMENT	PAYMENT DURATION	TOTAL AMOUNT
COMMODORE P120 PC/PRINTER PACKAGE	2999.99	£180.84	£29.99	36 months	£1260.48
OLIVETTI 53-120	£1099.99	£144.27	£34.99	36 months	£1403.91
AST 7302	£1199.99	£244.27	£34.99	36 months	£1503.91
AST 7312 PC/PRINTER PACKAGE	£1349.99	2257.70	£39.99	36 months	£1697.34
AST 7303	£1499.99	£271.13	£44.99	36 months	£1890.77
AST 9304	£1599.99	£234.56	£49.99	36 months	£2034.20

MOST STORES OPEN SUNDAY & UNTIL 8PM WEEKDAYS. RING FREE ON 0500 425 425

FOR DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST MULTIMEDIA COMPUTER CENTRE

ON PRINTERS



LEXMARK
COLOUR INKJET PRINTER
Up to 3 pages per minute
0 600 x 300 dpi print quality

VOUCHER

wol et far Gro

DAHAPO

orte dev 14 . <u>1</u>274 []

FOR 5

LASER/CO

EOUNAL SHY

PRICE P OUR PRE

MEYER!

BEE DELIV

The friends to the



HEWLETT PACKARD
COLOUR INKJET PRINTER

Up to 3 pages per minute

50 ox 300 del printi quality

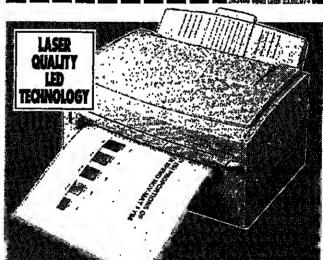
St pages sheet factor

50 page sheet feeder
 Exclusive software bundle: Print Shop Deluxe & Mys!
 Model DJ400, In-store £159.99

VOUCHER



COLOUR BUBBLEJET PRINTER
COLOUR BUBBLEJET PRINTER
VOUCHER
SAVE 720 x 360 day print dua ● 100 page sheet feeder Model 8JC240 In-store £199.99



OKI PAGE PRINTER

"...considering its impre WHAT PC? MAGAZINE Up to 4 pages per minute
 600 x 600 dpi print quality
 50 page sheet feeder
Model 4W, was £209.99
previously £259.99, £249.99

EXCLUSIVE

A single premium payment guarantees five years comprehensive cover against product breakdown. If, after five years, you've made no dain, you can get all your warranty money back in full. Ask in store for full details.

FREE MULTIMEDIA HELPLINE

When you buy any PC or printer at Cornet you'll be able to call our Helpline for just the charge of a normal call. Produced in association with Softbank-PSC, it'll give you all the advice you need for up to five years when you buy a 5-year extended warranty. Even subsequent peripheral or printer purchases will be covered.

Check the Comet Price Index, it's your guide to the lowest prices around on over 150 of our best selling products. Available on

let fans down Grobbelaar

from a fellow defendant Heng Suan Lim - known as Richard - to throw a match, though he had received sums for

said it had been "one of my best performances". He added: "I do not think any goalkeeper could have saved any of the six goals

Mr Grobbelaar, Mr Lim and the former Wimbledon striker John Fasham deny receiving or giving money in a conspiracy to infinence the outcome of football matches. Mr Lim, Mr Fashanu and the former Wimbledon goalkeeper Hans Segers, deny a similar charge. Mr Grobbelaar denies a separate charge of accepting £2,000 from his former business partner, Christopher Vincent, to

influence a game.
Mr Grobbelsar said that by the 1993-94 season he realised he was near the end of his career but denied being unhappy at his salary from Liverpool.

He denied receiving £40,000 for fixing a Liverpool-Newcasthe match in a meeting with John Fashanu at the latter's house. Liverpool lost the match 3-0.

I would never | Church seeks future in glorious past



Holy island; Lindisfarne is the venue for one of 117 special events to mark 1,400 years of British Christianity

Photograph: North News

Office Friendships

By Gavin Ewart

Eve is madly in love with Hugh And Hugh is keen on Jim. Charles is in love with very few And few are in love with him.

Myra sits typing notes of love With romantic pianist's fingers. Dick turns his eyes to the heavens above Where Fran's divine perfume lingers.

Nicky is rolling eyes and tits And flaunting her wiggly walk. Everybody is thrilled to bits By Clive's suggestive talk.

Sex suppressed will go berserk But it keeps us all alive. It's a wonderful change from wives and work. And it ends at half past five.

"Office Friendships" appears in Making Love to Marilyn, an antiology of love poems "from the seduction to the end of the affair", ranging from Sappho and Ovid to Carol Aun Duffy and Hago Williams, Basedired by Susan Roberts and published by Viking (£9.99):

Heritage Correspondent

صكذا من الاعل

Celebrations planned to mark the 1400th anniversary of St Augustine's mission to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity should not be seen as an exercise in ecclesiastical nostalgia", according to the Church

Health Editor

move, fragments of bone and f England. brain tissue believed to be of St man, Sir Jocelyn Stevens. In 597, St Augustine landed Thomas à Becket will go on yesterday announced a £10,000

in Kent on a papal mission to reconvert England to Chris-

tianity. After the end of Roman The relies were tested five years rule, British Christianity was confined to remote Celtic ago and dated as 12th century. Pilgrimages to and from Rome churches. Now, church and and linking early Christian sites state are combining for a year in Britain are also planned. of conservation and celebration. · In a potentially controversial

The state's role, through English Heritage, is comparatively straightforward. Its chair-

ed to the Canterbury martyr.

medieval tiles of the floor of the Chapter House at Westmin-ster Abbey, Some 117 special events are planned at English Heritage's ecclesiastical properties ranging from the ruins of Lindisfarne Priory off the Northumbrian coast to Old Sarum, the Iron Age hill fort near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

The Dean of Norwich, the

Very Rev Stephen Platten, rejected suggestions that the church was burying its present woes in past glories, "It is the very reverse," he said. "The church challenges the present with a message which remains as radical now as it was in the 6th century.

For a free map of England's Christian Heritage, call

Twenty infected by new E.coli outbreak

Two women have died and

At least 20 people have now been infected and two have died in the *E.coli* food poisoning outbreak in Arbroath it was confirmed yesterday, as new scientific evidence suggested that some yoghurts could protect against the bacterium.

staff at the Tayside town's Caimie Lodge Home have conanother 83-year-old is giving

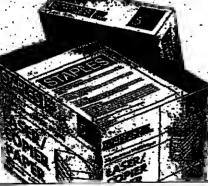
84-year-old man also being treated at the hospital is described as "comfortable" Tayside Health Board said symptomless so far, and being closely monitored. Meanwhile scientists at the

Institute of Food Research in Reading said that microorganisms called bifidobacteria, found in some commercially available yoghurts, "fought nff" E.coli in laboratory experiments. According to a report in New Scientist magazine, bifi-

the human intestine, but levels fall rapidly as people get older. Glen Gibson, a scientist at the Institute said: "As bitidobacteria populations decline, those of potentially harmful bacteria. such as E.coli and Streptococcus surge." However, he warned that eating live yoghurt may not solve the problem. "It's asking a lot for them to get right through the gut in the large intestine.



FOR 5 REAM CASE OR FOR 40



• 5 reams, 500 sheets per ream

ment guarantees five ye

igainst product breakdon

rmade no claim, you can't

y back in full. Ask in store

winter at Cornet you'll be the charge of a normal

Mh Softbonk PSC, if gire! ar up to five years when yo Negretty, Even subsequen

urchases will be cove



 40 sheets • 14 labels per sheet, 99 x 38mm



The Office Superstore

FREE DELIVERY 0800 141414 FOR YOUR NEAREST STAPLES STORE OPEN TO



Active ingredient Felbinac *Trade Mark Always read the label



forecasting results. Asked about a Liverpoolchester United game which was a 3-3 draw, the footballer

received no money and said Mr Vincent was not telling the truth about this meeting which

and occurred to discuss a match for the benefit of the victims of an air crash in Zambia involving that country's football team. The footballer said he had paid £20,000 to Mr Vincent but this had come from his "sock drawer" and was the proceeds of public speaking engagements and payments in cash from friends from Africa whose bills he had earlier settled. Mr Grobbelaar told the court be had met Mr Vincent in

Chester in 1992 and was asked to invest in a safari tourist bosiness which he thought was a "good idea", and the following day paid more than £5,000 as an initial investment. He agreed the two later became close

friends. However, over the next two years, Mr Grobbelaar had become concerned about where the money he was investing was going, and after a meeting in July 1994 the business deal DAILY POEM had ended with Mr Grobbelaar

having lost an estimated £60,000. Mr Grobbelaar said he would receive around £250 for forecasting matches for Mr Lim and agreed that Mr Lim had paid him £1,500 for this forecasting help at the Hilton Hotel in Loudon the night before a Liver-pool-Norwich game.

Earlier, the court had heard how Mr Grobbelsar had played football in Durban, South Africa, before moving to Crewe in England and then Liverpool -the club he bad always wanted to play for. Mr Klavan asked him about

his presence at the Heysel stadium disaster in 1985 and at the Hillsborough disaster four years later. Mr Grobbelaar said that after the Heysel match he had considered giving up the game. At Hillsborough he had seen the agony on the faces of fans. He agreed that he would never want to let his fans down because he said he knew they would never forget that and would always ask him why he had done it. The case comimes.

firmed 11 further cases of exposure to the E.coli 0157 bug.

Local MPs yesterday demanded a statement from the Secretary of State for Scotland, Michael Forsyth, as fears grew that more lives could be at risk among the elderly residents who are most vulnerable Blood tests on residents and to the bacterium.

"cause for concern" in the Infectious Diseases Unit at King's Cross Hospital in Dundee, An

that the 11 new cases did not mean the outbreak was growing. and that all the cases were dobacterium occur naturally in

Women seek ways to bridge power gap

Napoleon III's view that "it is the absence of women that enables men to tackle important daily questions", is shared by the world's parliaments. according to a new survey. It shows that women make up fewer than 12 per cent of MPs - 2 per cent less than

there were 100 years ago. Members of Parliament from 77 countries will meet in New Delhi today to discuss ways to bridge the gender gap in a follow-up to the 1995 United Nations Conference on Women in Peking, of which the survey forms a key part.

"The percentage of women involved in politics is far below parity," Pierre Cornillon, secretary-general of the Geneva-based Inter-Parliamentary Union. Its study of 179 parliaments released yesterday in Geneva, Washington and New Delhi, showed that only 11.7 per cent of the MPs world-wide are women, down from a high of 14.6 per cent in 1898, despite women comprising half of the

world's population.
The IPU, which surveyed 1,000 political parties, also said that only one out of every 10 party leaders was a woman despite a large number of

the sexes in political power was wider now than in 1985.

Countries with a high proportion of women MPs, such as Sweden, which came out best with more than 40 per cent or Norway, with 39 per cent, tend to use a different electoral system. Women make np 9 per cent of the MPs in Britain - where Nancy Astor was one of the first female MPs - and 6 per cent of those in France.

Some countries did not even have enough women legislators to meet a request that their small delegations to New Delhi be half female. They were told to make up the numbers with men. "The IPU will be advocating a new social contract for democracy based on parity between men and women in politics," Mr Cornil-lon said in a statement.

But he added that the IPU had given up its aim to achieve gender parity in parliaments by 2000 in favour of a more pragmatic approach.
Organisers said the conference

would debate key issues to help boost women in parliaments such as financing women's electoral campaigns, quotas for women in parliaments and the image of women



Labour schools plan under fire

Judith Judd Education Editor

Labour's policy of reducing infant class sizes would restrict parental choice at popular primary schools, a new study said yesterday.

The party has promised to cut class sizes for five to seven-year-olds to a maximum of 30 using money from the Assisted Places Scheme which subsidises bright pupils at private schools. But a lic Finance suggests the cost would rise dramatically unless more children were refused places at popular schools and di-rected to those with spare places.

Labour last night denied the report's suggestion that legislation would be necessary to restrict primary class sizes but accepted that appeals panels deciding admissions to popular schools would have to take class size into account.

At present, many oversized

cessful appeals by parents refused places by schools which say they are full.

In some cases, the report says, education authorities could rethree class sizes simply by re-distributing pupils, though this might prove unpopular with parents. In more remote areas, new teachers and new classrooms would be needed.

The report calculates that, over the seven years in which study from the Institute of Pub- the assisted places scheme is phased out, the money saved would be at least £250m short of that required. Reducing infant class sizes would cost about £65m a year plus around £100m in capital costs, it says. Savings from assisted places would build up to about £49m a year after seven years and the accumulated deficit would then be £250m. The cost of ed-ucating the 34,000 pupils now on the scheme in state schools would still have to be met

classes are the result of suc- by the taxpayer, the report says Peter Kilfoyle, shadow schools minister, said: "An additional 318,000 pupils have been accommodated in state schools over the last three years. with no extra grant from the Exchequer. It is ridiculous to suggest that the cost of providing for 6,000 pupils a year who

might otherwise have gone on assisted places is an addition". A spokesman added: "There would be a partnership between schools and local authorities to ensure that parental

demands were met." David Woodhead, director, of the Independent Schools Inmissioned the report, said: "This analysis shows that Labour would issue a double blow to parental choice. Not only would poor families lose the opportunity of an independent school ents will find the doors of pop-ular primary schools shut."

Ryder threatens writ over report

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

The former Conservative Chief Whip, Richard Ryder, yesterday threatened to take legal action against the BBC and The Guardian following claims that he would be criticised by the Standards and Privileges Committee report which was published yesterday.

The report did not in fact mention Mr Ryder. It also exonerated David Mitchell, the former Conservative whip under investigation, from using his position to dissuade the now-defunct Members Interests Committee from investigating allegations two years ago that Neil Hamilton MP had accepted cash for questions in

Parliament. The report criticised Mr Mitchell's appointment to a quasi-judicial committee as "a mistake" because he was a whip at the time.

Last night, Mr Ryder threat-ened to issue libel writs, saying he had instructed his solicitors led to his resignation. to "threaten, and if necessary institute legal proceedings" against the BBC and The Guardian over the earlier reports unless they apologised and for questions, but it looks inpaid damages.

the Standards and Privileges Committee, the Leader of the Commons Tony Newton, Mr Privileges, Complaint of alleged Ryder also warned that he reserved the right to start legal proceedings against the Privi-leges Committee member "suspected of being the source of the Office, £8 80

malicious briefing". He called on Mr Newton to carry out "an . immediate and full investigation into this shambles", with witnesses interviewed in public on

be flood worth of suffic BREY LIMITED STOCKS!

While the Standards and Privileges Committee report recommends that no appointcommittees should be made in future, it accepts Mr Mitchell's version that he was an unwitting party to events and had not realised that his appointment to the Members' Interests Com-

mittee would cause a row. However, some Labour MPs are critical of the fact that the Privileges Committee did not summon any witnesses, other than Mr Mitchell.

One Labour source said: This is another nail in the coffin for self-regulation." Yesterday's report contrasts sharply with an earlier report containing damning criticism of Tory minister David Willetts, accus-

The-Standards and Privileges Committee will now consider the main complaint about Neu Hamilton acc aid damages. creasingly that it will fail to pro-In a letter to the chairman of duce its report before the general election.

Committee on Standards and improper pressure brought to bear on the select committee on members' interest in 1994 (further report), Stationery



CHAIN CUTTER on red bot plates, whilst the back of his legs are bit in time

to music. Onlookers taunt him and force him to drink beer.

Why? Because they're teaching him to 'dance' for tourists

who pay to watch his agonising waitz.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) escues 'dancing bears' and takes them to sanctu where they can be free of pain and suffering. But we can't carry out our life-saving work without the support of people like you. Your gift of just £10, or whatever you can afford, will help cut the chains of innocent anims So please send your donation today. He's counting on you.

YES, I WANT TO CUT THE CHAINS! Please fill in the details below (Please make cheques psychie to WEPA or complete the credit card details bein Access/Visa/Mastercant/Switch/Eurocard/CAF CharlyCard Peers dues a see Card No.

Please send this completed form and your done to: WSPA, Dept. AL224, Freepost NH2604, Northampton, NN3 6BR. No stamp is needed. THANK YOU. Regetered Charly No.282508

MORTGAGES FROM DISCOUNT UNTIL 1 MARCH 1998 PLUS GENEROUS CASHBACK She's ninety-seven years old, weighs (4.4% APR) until 1 March 1998 with a 3% heaven knows how many tonnes and needs cashback, which could give you as much as £6,000. a face-lift. You've fallen in love. You needn't worry about butterflies in the All that stands between you is a mortgage. stomach, either. We've always a trained Not any more. We can help you achieve your heart's desire. Mortgage Officer on hand to help. So drop in to your local branch of Alliance & Leicoster. Quite simply, we're offering one of our best or call 0800 412 214 to find out more. discounted mortgages to First and Next Time Buyers. We've matched a 3% discount It could be the start of a beautiful relationship. http://www.effiance-leicester.co.uk ABY AND AFF CHARACTED ARE VARIABLE AND ARE FOR REGISTRAL WORKSALES, APP CUPTED IS FOR MORTGAGES OR AN INTEREST ONLY BASIS SETUDING LIFE SOCIETY E DISCOUNTED WORTHANDED WITE THAT HE WAS AND THE CHARACTE OF A ARD THE TOTAL ADJUNCT PARAMETER HAVE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE LABBLE RALE WILL BE THE SHAPE AT THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE LABBLE RALE WILL BE THE SHAPE AT THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE LABBLE RALE WILL BE THE CHARACTE OF THE MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE LABBLE RALE WILL BE THE CHARACTE OF THE MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE LABBLE RALE WILL BE THAT CHARACTE OF THE MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT THE CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT WE CONTINUED AND THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT WE CONTINUED AND THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THAT IS MORTGAGE OF THE DISCOUNTED BASIS THAT CHARACTE OF THE STATE OF THE PROPORT OF THE STATE OF

The perfect day for making a move.

YOUR ROME IS AT BISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

HEWLETT PACKARD INKIET CARTRIDGE WHEN YOU BUY ANT 1 HAL PRIC £3(£10

THE BE

YOUR BUSIN

EXPERT ADVICE

thery stone has a special e, with all the help

make the right choice in

gett business compati ated specifically to

spert technical back of upgrades and inscellation

An unbestable comme

ININ

scho, der fi

assisted places

would be a parthering theories to

parental chaice he

WARY 1997 . THE DAR

of suc- by the lapont Percula rechevels mineral dicional 3180 profit and another Little report says. Har while re shaply by It. chedner hing though this september with gost that the on might otherwise for private transfer of the private tr

and new class-is anoded. Initialities that, pears in which thoney severi (250m short David Wood Bed. Reducing would cost of the Independent formation Serve messamed the repair would issue a dog

ment plus around hal goats, it says, mented places ni to shout £44m t years and an deficit would pour families les The cost of ed-mity of an indeed education but may ents will find their utar primary stor

er threate over rep

oath.

malicious briefing 1

on Mr Newtontoen immediate and falling

into this shamble.

nesses interviewed a

The Standards #

Committee on Start

While the Stant

spendent vetive Chief #, yexterday egai action. and The

chains that Privileges Committee ted by the recommends that no tran pubments of whips to que committees should future, it accepts Mrk of in fact Version that he wasans I also exparty to events and let thell. the alised that his appoint whip unthe Members Interes

using his mittee would causes TWWW-Little However, some Like ots Comare critical of the fact Privileges Committed ager that summon any winess Lacceptthan Mr Mitchell One Labour some kitta ta ' The is another milisi sed Mr. tim for self-regulation?

day's report contrast! Me fes it with an earlier reporte B& 28 A **Kawhip** ing danning collesie manister David Willen PRICE! ing him of "dissemble repent, published in De Marying Mentors led to his resignation legers Committee wills steler the main complia Neil Hamilton accord

for questions, but it ereasingly that it wiii duce its report les general election trilege. r of the Privateges, Complaint improper pressure be the tebear on the whereas rt icgal members' mercs ! e-Ptiti-(further report). St CT "SUN-Office, £8 80

mattive nose and made Het the back of his legs are say week then and force him to did! * Benching him to dance to be the Protection of Animals (6

and takes them to said free of pain and suffering M work without the said R of fust £10, or whatever it traction today. Ho's countrie of

---IT TO CUT THE CHAME

Prints page

No. Steens of the second linear second linea



100MHz Pentium Processor. FINAL SALE 8Mb RAM. 850Mb hard disk. Quad speed multimedia. 28.8K.bps REDUCTION data/fax modern. Remote controlled communications card. Radio card.

Over £1000 worth of software. **HURRY LIMITED STOCKS!** Was £1349 £1149 £999. Model: Packard Bell 909D

NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS

PACKARD BELL 120MHz Pentium Proces 8Mb EDO RAM, 1.2Gb hard disk. Six speed multimedia. 28.8kbps data/fax, modern. Remote controlled communications card. Radio card. Over £1000 worth of software. HURRY LIMITED STOCKS! Was £1499 £1299 £1199 £1149.

Model Packard Bell 9002D NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS

£1099 PRINTER SALE - SAVE 48 £100

HEWLETT PACKARD 600 x 600 DPI resolution (black), 600 x 300 DPI resolution (colour). Up to 5 pages per minute. 100 page sheet feeder. Includes 101 Delmatians print studio softwere. Was \$299 \$275 £269.

£259 25% OFF

INKJET CARTRIDGES WHEN YOU BUY ANY INKLET PRINTER

CANON SAVE Coloner halighet Primater. 720 r 360 DPI resolution (blinds). 360 r 360 DPI colour periorg. Up to 4 pages per minute (blech). 10s £187 £189. Moder Genon 81/240 €20 €179

SAVE

€400

SAVE £50 LEO Pago Printer, 500 DPL resolution, up to 4 pages per minure, 100 page automatic sheet feeder. West £249. CANON

FAVE Colour Indias. Printer.
720 x 360 DPI colour printing
Up to 5 pages per minute (black).
100 page sheet tas, Photo-real
parting capability. Was £259.
Mode 8/07/20. 249

BROTHER Laser Printer, 1200 x 600 DPI esolution. Up to 12 £100 wented memory anted, 75 scaleble fores Ness £ 1049.

PERIPHERALS SALE = SAVE 48 £120

HALF

49.99

£30

€100

£10



TAPE BACKUP

Colorado DI-35. Internal 350Mbyte tape

SCANNER Heaviett Packard 45.

Was £179.

Kodak DC20.

Creyscale Full A4 page scanner includes full suite of Document

Full colour digital carmera.
Capture images in full colour and download to your PC for

Creative Labs Family Eight. Eight speed CD-ROM drive.

16 bit soundblester card. Stereo speakers and various

editing, printing or storing. Was £299.

DIGITAL CAMERA SAVE

MULTIMEDIA KIT SAVE

CD ROM DRIVE Creative Labs 12 speed CD ROM Drive. 12 speed enhanced IDE drive. Includes Encarta 97.

SCANNER Legituda Pagastan Colour Pro. 400 dots per inch resolution full €50 PRICE colour page scanner with full suite of image management software. Includes advanced document £249 eeder. Was £299 £279. HARD DRIVE SAVE ru Digital 3.1 Gbyle £120

Western Digital 3.1 G Bard Drive 3.5" Internal IDE Device €279

Some Cards
All range of configurations available.
But one Somm
and get the second of

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST EVER COMPUTER

RICES UT EVEN FURTHER



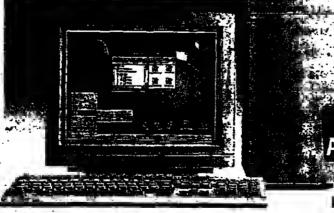
PACKARD BELL

120MHz Pentium Processor 8Mb EDO RAM. 1Gb hard disk. Six speed multimedia. 3D surround sound.

Over £1000 worth of software. **HURRY LIMITED STOCKS!** Was £1399 £1199 £1149 £1099. Model: Packard Bell 9001s

FINAL SALE REDUCTION





ACER
166MHz Pentium R Processor with MMX" Technology. 16Mb EDO RAM. 1.6Gb hard disk. 256K cache memory. Eight speed multimedia. 33.6K.bps data/fax modem. 15" monitor.

JUST ARRIVED NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS

PACKARD BELL 166MHz Pentium Proces with MMX Technology. 32MB RAM 2Gb hard disk 256k cache memory. Eight speed multimedia.

33.6k.bps modern ZMb 3D graphics card.
Media Select final – aliens easy access
to applications.

Need Select street.

£1000 WORTH OF £2199 120MHz PENTIUM MULTIMEDIA PCs **FROM £899**



*Acer*ACROS

120MHz Pentium Processor. 8Mb RAM. 810Mb hard disk. 14" Monitor. Eight speed multimedia. Stereo Soundcard and speakers. Plus FREE £650 worth of software Was £999.

NOW ONLY NOTHING TO PAY FOR P MONTHS

£300

FINAL SALE

Model: Acer Acros P120 Multimedia

PACKARD BELL SAVE NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS FUJITSU

APRICOT

£200 NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS

PACKARD BELL

£300 Durr Fines worth of software. PINAL SALE

PORTABLE PCs - SAVE +8 £500



TOSHIBA SAID EDO RAM STOAID had Jok



11.3" Dual Scan Colors Deplay Was <u>218997 21297</u> 21249. LOWEST

EVER PRICE

TOSHIBA 113 La rentier bereit in seus munch die

NOTHING TO PAY FOR 9 MONTHS

TOSHIBA £500 Fildam valjen rokaje ilj Tape ili eritatija skos u nagor FINAL SALE the time

SOFTWARE SALE - SAVE 48 £290



MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 The world's most popular office suite

now includes the power of the web. Includes Microsoft Word 97, Excel 97 Powerpoint 97 and new Orthook 97.

SAVE £5 QUAKE SAVE £10 £19.99

SAVE E5 £19.99 SAVE EZO £79 5 AVE 6290 Corel Draw v6 €99

TO PAY FOR 12 MONTHS

SPREAL DIVER PRICE HUMBY DANS SAT 2254

APR 29.5%

THE BEST CHOICE FOR ALL YOUR BUSINESS COMPUTING NEEDS

EXPERT ADVICE

 Every store has a specialist Business Centre, with all the help you need to make the right choice for your

 Expert business computing staff, dedicated specifically to business

upgrades and installations.

AFTER SALES SUPPORT Business account facilities available (subject to status).

 Easy telephone ordering and next day delivery nationwide (for orders

• Open 7 days per week and until 8pm • Expert technical back-up including weekdays. IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY An unbeatable combination of over 5,000 top name leading edge products. Products available to take away immediately from stock.



NEW

£1999

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464



COMPAQ

166MHz Pentimux Processor with MMX* Technology.

molimedia. 1Mb EDO PO graphics. 33.6K.bps data/fax/voice modem. Easy

BRED ON CHRIST SHAKE PRICE OF MAIN OF STRANGED FOR THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PRICE OF

Labour plans to impose levy in first Budget

Labour's new windfall tax, which is expected "comfortably" to raise at least £3bn, will form part of Gordon Brown's first Budget, to be delivered within six weeks of his move into

But as Mr Brown showed in an interview on BBC Radio 4's Today programme yesterday. Labour is reluctant to go into any great detail before it discusses the practicalities - in government - with the Inland Revenue and privatised industry regulators.

Conservative demands for information on the amounts of tax to be raised from individual companies are regarded as a potential trap for the unwary, creating hostages to fortune. While Labour's legal advice

is that the windfall tax would withstand legal challenge in British or European courts, that does not mean that Labour leaders can abandon all care.

injudicious statements could yet open the tax to legal action, as could any inequality of application of the tax, All utilities would have to be put on the same footing; if one was unjustifiably exempted, others could then open legal proceedings. However, Mr Brown told

Today: "I think what the utilities will now want to do, instead of defending a privileged position, is to work with us so that we can implement this in a sen-

He said that every privatised utility would be considered as a candidate for the tax, to be judged on the basis of "the extent of their monopoly position, the weakness, or not, of the regulatory regime, and the value of the assets on the point of sale."

But Mr Brown said last night there was no question, whatever the utilities themselves perversity of unemployed young

lowing any rise in prices because of the windfall levy.

"And any attempt to lower in-vestment levels below those which are promised would, of course, be in breach of under-

The main purpose of the tax is to finance Labour's pledge to get 250,000 young unemployed off benefit and into work.

Explaining bow the one-off £3bn levy would be spent over a period of years, Mr Brown said in an Anthony Crosland

Privatised utility profits 1995-96 British Telecom £3,019m

Vater & Sewe rage £1,631m legional electricity £1,681m Electricity £1,493m £616.5m Vational Grid Scottish electricity £599.9m **BAA** (Airports) . £418m

(The figures for the 10 water conpenies not the to water com-penies are for their main regulat-ed businesses and exclude unregulated activities such as con-tracting and consultancy).

Memorial Lecture last night: "A tax rebate of £60 a week will be offered to a private company to take young people on. "They will be offered the option of employment through a

community and voluntary organisation programme, or through our new Environmental Taskforce as party of our Citizen's "And each of these three op-

tions for work involves day-release education or training leading to a qualification. "And to create a fourth option, full-time further education

from benefit if they study for more than 16 hours.

Mr Brown repeated that "there will be no fifth option of remaining permanently on full benefit," he warned.

As for the older long-term un-employed, Mr Brown said that employers who took on people who had been unemployed for two years or more would be of-fered a £75 a week tax rebate.

The basic Labour employment programme is expected to cost £900m in the first year for the under-25s, and £100m for the long-term unemployed, with another £2bn spread over the remaining four years of a fiveyear Parliament

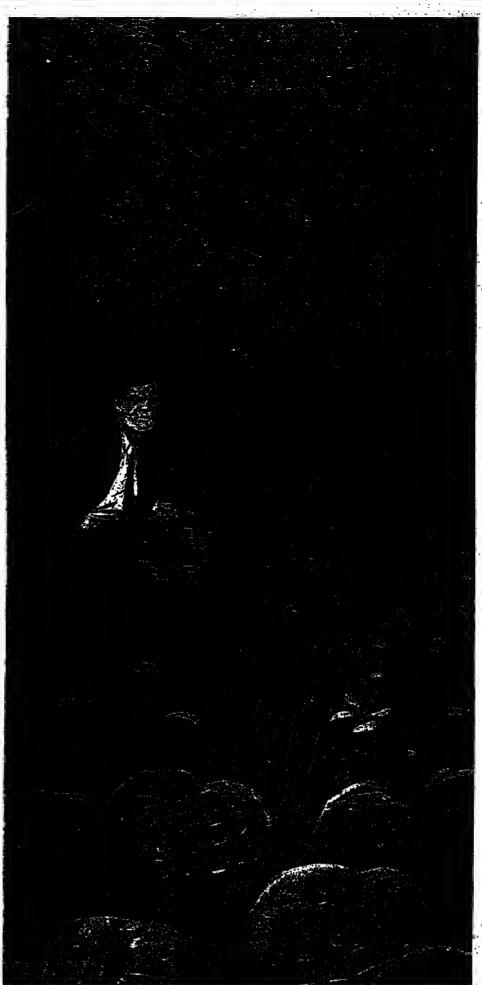
If the windfall levy raised more than £3bn, that would be ploughed into the programme to help the unemployed - "part of an abandoned and forgotten

Putting the tax into its political cootext, Mr Brown said last night: "There have been leftof-centre politicians who have espoused socialism, but fail to meet the test of credibility," be said. "There have been those who have presented themselves as credible by abandoning so-"The real challenge of left-of-

centre politics is to be socialist and at the same time credible." That was a challenge, he said, that Labour fully understood -"and fully intend to meet". Mr Brown also said the "sec-

ond building block" of his modernisation programme would bring a lower starting rate of income tax - 10p in the pound and an adjustment of benefit clawback, "to make work pay". It was said last night that he

would like to introduce the 10p rate in his first year of office but there is no question of and training, we will eod the windfall tax reveoue being diverted to finance that proposal.



Utility chiefs resigned to paying levy:

Business Correspondent The privatised utilities may kick

and scream over the Shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown's proposed windfall tax, but in reality most are privately resigned to paying it.

The bulk of the buge profits

carned by the electricity and water companies will continue to be based on monopolies over pipelines and wires for the foresecable future.

Labour has given up listen-ing to directors of these busi-nesses who naively believe they can avoid the tax altogether. Most have stopped lobbying shadow ministers in favour of examining the legality of the tax. Already several utilities bave pledged to test the legislation in the European Court in the interests of their shareholders.

So can they afford it? Recent research from NatWest Securi-ties, the City of London arm of the National Westminster Bank, concluded that "logic" sug-gested Labour would raise £5bn.

An analyst with another leading City bank, who did not want to be named, said: "The utilities all have strong balance sheets with relatively smail amounts of debt. Provided the tax is not levied at draconian rates they'll write a cheque out

to pay it. They may not do that bappily, but it won't hurt them."

The real haggling will be over those companies which have changed so much since the initial burst into the private sector that they no longer consider themselves to be utilities at all. British Telecom is the mostobvious example. "We would argue we are not a monopoly utility," a spokesman said yes-

In BT's defence it does face stiff competition in the business and international phone call markets. The company's £12bn merger with the aggressive American long-distance operator, MCI Communications, also lessens BT's dependence on the UK market. Yet BT still controls more

than 90 per cent of residential phone lines and domestic cus-

tomers will see their bills regre lated by a tough price a until 2001.

The row goes a step further with BAA, the former Balling Airports Authority. Thought is has a hugely dominant po land as the owner of Heather Garwick and Stansted airports it has been hard at work lobbying Labour to try to show its

competitive credentials.
It also insists that it has not made excess earnings and paid £103m in tax last year. How Mr Brown's parliamentary Bill will combat these claims is still unclear.

Yet perhaps the biggest bur-dle Mr Brown faces may not be from the companies themselves, but from the industry regulators,

who he bas pledged to consult. Yesterday Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator and one who is never afraid to court controversy, said that she would tell Mr Brown that the tax would be "hard to justify".

She claimed ber recent savage price formula for British Gas's pipeline business was designed to compensate for past efficiency gains. She went on: "If I was going to do my job properly there won't be any excess profits." Ms Spottiswoode also ar-

gued that current shareholders of British Gas, who have had a torrid time in recent months because of ber own price proposals, would be the ones clobbered rather than those who made the true windfall gains in the glory days of the late 1980s after privatisation.

Labour will also have to pre-

vent the tax being passed on to consumers in higher bills.

Professor Stephen Lit-tlechild the electricity regulator, has said that he would be obliged to look at the case put to him by the companies. Equally, party sources said they would override such a move using existing legislation.

Few of those affected gen-unely believe Mr Brown will fail to push through his cherished windfall levy. But this does oot mean they will stop trying every method possible to persuade him to abandon it.





Call 0800 77 99 55 now. or fill in the coupon for a no-obligation quote.

Title	First name		Suiteme						
lddress									ny [
							_		
	<u> </u>		Postcoo	ie					
thone (inc	STOcode) Day		Evening			_			
inte of bi	irth of the eldest pe	raça requirim	COVER	L	۰	1		1	1
	uired: Single 🗀								
internal	izin of current ins	rrence (If appl	icable)	1	_	_i_	-	<u>:</u>	
i kon, q b	refer & represental	ive to visit pia	Rse tick i	bar []				

io post to (no stamp required) Prima Health Limited.

Incredible as it sounds, some of the leading health insurers place financial limits on cover for surgeons', anaesthetists' and physicians' fees.

Besides this, some won't fully cover out-patient treatment such as x-rays, scans and diagnostic tests. And others offer no provision for alternative medicine.

Primecare, a policy from Prime Health, gives you all this cover as well as a no-claims discount of up to 50%. But the most remarkable thing about it is the price, which is equivalent to some companies badget schemes.

Why not call us to see how your current policy compares to Primecare?

Prime Health A member of the Standard Life Group

A GREAT SELECTION OF **ORIGINAL PUBLICATIONS** NORMALLY PRICED UP TO : £15.00 - NOW ONLY £3 EACH, WHILE THEY LAST. QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED SO ORDER TODAY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

way to combat that hair-loss.

Lare £180 a Day Writing: This man did it and he reckons arryone can do the same. A good read and a perfectly achievable target. This book proves that it's not just a dream.

☐ Relief Without Drags: One of the most important books on relaxation and self help over written. An absolute must.

☐ How to Make Honey Writing Short Paragraphs: Says what it means and means what it says —you really can earn more per word than many famous authors.

Ulcar Handbook: Ulcars can be painful and irritating. We show you ways to beat the pain and treat those vicers.

Traditional Health Remedies: This eye opening book will show you the hidden benefits of a wide variety of traditional, time tested and proven remedies.

☐ Incontinence Handbook: This salf-help guide answers all your questions. How to Withe Your Own Will: Make sure

your possessions and savings are distributed the way you want, not the way the courts decide for the tack of a will. The 100 Best Classics at a Glasce: The one hundred greatest classics ever

written, now at the rate of one book per page. İnstant culture! Like Yourself and Others Will Too: Any psychotherapist will tell you this is the key to etting on. But it's easier said than done -

hence the need for this very sympathetic and helpful book. ☐ Travel Tips: Tips & Secrets from a seasoned traveller, save money, save time, and avoid

Proriasis Handbook: What causes psoriasts? How can it be treated? This book answers all your questions.

the hassies of travelling.

☐ Your Talking Dog: Now you can really talk to 'man's best friend' and get an answer you can understand — definitely one for all dog lovers everywhere!

Learn the secrets of negative calorie eating, and as the book says, foods that make make voa lose weight.

Healing Teas: An A-Z guide of health prob-lems and the healing teas used over certuries

☐ Thyroid Handbook: Covers all aspects of thyroid disorder, from its prevention to the wide ranging treatments available.

☐ High Blood Pressure: Advice on what to do (and what not to do) to reduce the risks associated with this condition.

Over The Counter Medicines: This book simply shows you the medicines you should be asking for over the counter.

Asthma Handbook: Take control of your asthma so that it no longer interferes with your life. Learn what you can do. ☐ The Computer Auction Handbook: How

opportunity for the 90s! Your Talking Cat: A detailed guide on how to talk to your cat including the 19 means and what they mean. Over 63,000 copies

to buy or sell computers at auction - a business

Eczema Handbook: This self help handbook covers everything you can do to make living with eczema easier.

☐ Travel Free — A Handbook of Travel Tips: Here's how to get upgraded flights, discounted tickets, travel free, stay in top hotels at 40% off, get 30% off the price of a cruise and . . . dreds of other travel tips.

☐ Boost Your Metabolism: This course will make you feel fitter, healthier, slimmer and more confident about your body.

indigention Handbook: Everything you need to know about how to treat and avoid. digestive disorders.

Colonic irrigation: Film stars swear by it. Find out about this extremely popular and beneficial form of body-cleansing.

☐ Bables Bables, Your Assazing Baby: Another of those question and answer books. A great gift for new parents and doting grandparents as well as anyone else interest babies. All the facts in one book.

of life easier by explaining the changes and problems that may occur.

Little Known Houlth Cures: The title explains it all. Compiled by experts cavering all of today's health problems.

Understanding Intertitity: This sensitive subject is treated in a down to earth style,

including how to treat yourself. © 1997 Carnell Ltd. 28 Charles Square: London N1 Get.

£3 BOOK SALE - ORDER COUPON

To order, simply tick the books you want, complete this coupon and return the whole of this announcement to: Carnell Ltd, Alresford, Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP

cook(3) at 25 each + 95p per book for p&p. I enclose payment of £	٠.
l enclose a cheque/postal order, payable to Cameli Ltd	_
Please charge my credit card as follows:	100
	-
Expiry date	
Name	• -

Delivery usefully within 7 days but please allow up to 14 days. We hop to be able to bring you a variety of further interesting offers from pro-

he pic prov

t

New Amortic Co.

Se pois and

South here

Ethiology of the Branch Committee the Lind Best office of the state 2 Chicalin Spain to the man estimate the country victor. Commence of the control of the contr ारते स्था ESSENTIAL WALLAND ings : O Bichard the Line and Artist Management of the last 1,21:300

State die 1 age lose that they have been of the They co Make the street of the state the section of the section of the Senten Day of South Better all will be the state of Bertheller in the Case.

^{opher} de Bollaikuo

Pm van la travita

Barket - Livrey Pings Property of the Paris TERMS Maril 19 fl. of the LINE S "Month Mail m dar Total William Control of nuje Log a promotive therete. No. 20 Mar Charles Lington . Beng . 2 Story appropriate Name Make the control of t burganda talamakan Alphania de directiva define piteliti fitt if affire

pray i VARIA llirte 4.24.56 Mary Hillington Series r: - Hrd Strain State Vi. La William Bally - Willett Maria Commence Hele I was a second for action divina

amment by My 10 story = 715 (1.184) . 7 in the properties. Spirit of the first of the

William Colors of the hilling to morni-Application of the state of the

Still not

French

after 74

years in

France

Anyone who has applied for any

form of official document in France will sympathise with the

sad, but ultimately happy, sto-ry of Angetine Le Leyour.

A great-grandmother, aged

83, she has fived for 74 years in Morlaix, a small town in Brittany, believing herself to be French. One day tast March she

applied for a new identity card and was told she was not French, or at least could not

Mrs Le Leyour had become French (or so she thought)

when she married ob years ago She had voted in every French

election over seven decades, had

had French children, French

grandchildren and French

great-grandchildren. She had owned a succession of French

identity cards and passports. When her identity card ex-

pired last year, she applied for a new, computerised one. She was asked to produce a Cer-

tificate of French Nationality,

which had never been required

before and which, as far as she

knew, she had never possessed.

(The rules for automatic re-

newal of French identity cards

have been changed as part of the

switch to computerised cards.

But many suspect identity and

immigration procedures are

being tightened in response to

criticisms from Jean-Marie Le

Pen's far-right Front National).

was refused a new card. She ar-

pealed to the local courts and

vas again refused. The court

aid she must "justify her pos-

ession of French citizenship.

For the last 11 months she has

been technically stateless.
This week her lawyer, Gilles

Caroff, appealed to the gov-

erament, to publicise her case nationally. Yesterday, the Inte-

rior Minister, Jean-Louis Debré

sent her a personal letter

promising he would waive the

ules. By early afternoon, Mrs

Mr Caroff said yesterday it

Le Leyour was French again

and had the card to prove it.

was a case of "bureaucratic lu-

it has ended happily," he said.

The story coincides with a

Le Peo's Front National.

In any event, Mrs Le Leyour

prove she was French

John Lichfield

1 1997 - THE INDEP

Yet perhaps the biggs)
die Mr Brown faces may from the companies there but from the industry make

: best 1 Ms Spottiswoode #

dance

ed the

trian

after promisition. Labour will also barry vetal the tax being passic

consumers in higher bil. Professor Stephen! for, has said that he was obliged to look at them: to him by the come Equally, party sources ale

uning custing legislance

CPMALLY PRICED UP TO E15.00 - NOW ONLY FORMY TO ANOW DISAPPORTMENT

have to get upgraded thights discusse 30% off the price of a croise and

of four Metabolism: This cours of

Handbook Frenting how about how to treat and and

m of body cleansing

eff to new parents and daling the as well as anythin else interested a All the facts in one book

of that may occur

ra health omblesus

in product in a dient in could the og how to treat yourse'll

is coupon and return the whole of the same Escax CO7 SAP or plan i enclose payment at

tomers will see ther but lated by a tough pig.

The row goes a sept. made excess carning at £103m in tax last year hit Brown's parliamentar B

who he has pledged tone Vesterday Clare for woode, the gas regular, one who is never afraiding controversy, said that she tell Mr Brown that the would be "hard to just

She claimed her man age price formula for k. Gas's pipeline business designed to compense past efficiency gains Ser on: "If I was going to do." properly there would;

gued that current should of British Gas, who beet torrid time in recent at because of her own page posals, would be theoret bered rather than there made the true windfall a the glory days of the bas

Hechild, the electrons Wettlid override such is Few of those affeads

minely believe Mr Browne to push through his day windfall levy. But this be mean they will step tops method possible to poshim to abandon it.

THEAT SELECTION OF WEIGHNAL PUBLICATIONS BACH, WHILE THEY LAST museum bought: "What we got

phi Prop - A Handbook of Trans is Bavel free, stay to ten hatels of 40°. is of other trave! tips.

w fund latter, heaftfur: shamer admi it about your body.

ute brigation: Film stars swarft. shout this enter mely popular and is

los Bohins, Your Amazing Balt of those question and insuer but

Parentie Randbook: Mars his he that me

in Known Health Cures Tarke Tital Compiles by complishing withing factoritity. This seek

express liberal Turks' disquiet at corruptioo within the state. However, government sensi-DER COUPO tivity - curious, since Mr Erbakan's Welfare Party remains largely unimplicated in allega-

tions of skuldriggery - has made it a symbol of an acrimonious debate between secularists and

Tactless comments by Mr in court on charges of fo-Erbakan's justice minister. meming division", a serious ac-Sevket Kazan, have propelled Turkey's Alevis (Alawites), a re-Express date - ligious minority numbering around 15 million, to prominence within this debate. Mr Kazan's mistake was to de-

The pictures that prove the guilt of Moshe Dayan

hero and thief

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

For three decades General Moshe Dayan, the most revered Israeli military leader, looted archaeological sites in Israel and in territories conquered by the Israeli army. "He robbed antiquities wherever he could reach," says Uri Avneri, a former magazine editor and radical member of the Knesset, who for years campaigned against Gen Dayan's activities.

By the time he died, his reputation tarnished by setbacks in the 1973 war with Egypt and Syria, the archaeological depredations of Israel's most famous general were notorious. He frequently dispatched military units to locate and retrieve objects for his collection. On his death in 1981 the Israel Musenm in Jerusalem paid \$1m (£620,000) for a thousand objects owned by Gen Dayan, though critics argued that most were illegally acquired.

"It wasti't easy for archaeologists to stand up to him," says oce Israeli ancient historian. Trudi Dottan, an archaeologist who knew Gen Dayan, says he had great intuition about where to dig, but also an all-consuming "lust for finding antiquities". Uri Avneri says Gen Dayan grew up poor and was always cager for money: "He would go to

an Arab dealer in Bethlehem, but the man would not dare to turn him down or charge him the real price for an object. It was close to expropriation." Talay Arnon, curator of the Dayan collection at the Israel Museum, says pieces of an-cient jewellery Gen Dayan is known to have once owned were not among the objects the

was mostly pots and jars." The reason Gen Dayan was able to get away with this for so ong was that after Israel's victories in 1956 and 1967 he was a national hero.

Mr Avneri says that not only did archaeologists not support him against Gen Dayan, but "I have oever known such hatred owards me because of my cam-

Christopher de Bellzigue

"Parasites," is how Necmettin

Erhakan, Turkey's Islamic-inclined prime minister, de-

scribed several million of his

compatriots on Monday. Mr Er-

bakan and his Welfare Party do

oot approve of a growing num-

ber of Turks who have taken to

extinguishing their lights for a

minute at 9pm each night.

The protest - which began

modestly, but is now spreading

fast - was originally intended to

from people in the streets." An Israeli journalist, Shush

Mula, working for the Jerusalem weekly Kolha'ir has now discovered photographs, taken by an Israeli military helicopter pilot, which for the first time show one incident of archaeological theft actually taking place just after the Israeli army, whose chief of staff was Gen Dayan, captured Sinai in

Uri Yarom, the pilot, has vivid memories of what happened, because he believes his life was put in danger by the wenture, which had no military fustification.



Close-up of carving of the Goddess Hathor on the stela

finished during the Snez war of 1956 than Gen Dayan took his family to southern Sinai to vis-it Sarabit al-Khadim, a mountaintop which is the site of an ancient Egyptian sanctuary of the XII Dynasty, dedicated to the Goddess Hathor, often represected as a cow-headed woman. Beside her temple are stelae, or stone pillars, covered with hieroglyphs and carvings. On 27 November, only three weeks after the Israelis captured southern Sinai, Uri Yarom was sent to bring three of the stelae to Israel, where they ended up in the courtyard of Gen Dayan's house.

"We were told the mission was of national importance," Mr Yarom told Shush Mula, From the beginning they faced diffi-

ers as players in "a game of can-dle-snuffing". Turks recognise this as an allusion to Alevi re-

ligious ceremonies, which in

times of oppression took place in darkness. These involve both

male and female family mem-

bers. Mischievous Sunnis - who

pray in seclusion from women

- joke that the Alevis take ad-

vantage of the darkness to in-

dulge in incest. But unlike Mr

Mr Kazan's stock with

Kazan, few say so in public.

Turkey's Alevis, who ally syn-

cretist Islam with liberal politics.

is already low enough. A lawver

by profession, Mr Kazan once

defended religious zealors when

they were accused of burning to

death 37 Alevis and Alevi sym-

pathisers in the central Anato-

Alevi groups say they hope the justice minister will appear

cusation in strongly unitary. Turkey. His indiscretion has al-

ready cost him friends in Wel-

fare's coalition partner, the

Besides enraging Turkish

lian town of Sivas.

True Path Party.

made it difficult for them to reach Abu Rudeis, the airbase nearest to Sarabit al-Khadim. in our hands were of no value."

old beach umbrellas.

The next day the helicopter found Sarabit al-Khadim after others in the background.

with the stela hanging beneath it. If weighed half a tonic. "It was lack of responsibility not to tell us the weight," says Mr Yarom. Back in Tel Aviv a driver loading one of three stones onto a truck for carriage to Gen weight and dropped it, crack-

gin as Foreign Minister. His reputation had never quite recovered from the initial success of the surprise attack made by Egypt and Syria in 1973. At Camp David Israel agreed openly to return Sinai to Egypt

one of those involved.

"We flew over the ground, seeing nothing but clouds," Mr Yarom said. The maps we had At Abu Rudeis they found

somebody had stolen the extra emplies of easoline on which they were counting. As they ed there was a sandstorm and Mr Yarom was frightened that sand would get into the helicopter's engine. He tried to protect it with canvas cut from

two failed attempts. The photographs show Mr Yarom standing with three other soldiers in front of a 10ft-high stela with Another photograph shows the AS-55 belicopter in the air

Dayan's house was surprised by ing the 3,500-year-old carving. The travels of the carvings from the temple of Hathor were not over. In 1979 Gen Dayan joined the right-wing government of Menachim Be-

and, less publicly, to return the carvings from Smai which had been sitting in the courtyard of Geo Dayan's house. The main difficulty was to persuade Dayan to give them back," said

Two years later Gen Dayan died. His health had been damaged by falling into an archaeological excavation. There was criticism of the purchase of his collection by the Israel Museum for such a large sum since under Israeli law the objects should have automatically be-

scribe the nine o'clock protest- Alevis, Mr Kazan's comments tures to Iran; whom they are try

secular-minded countrymen.

Earlier this month, these-

tensions boiled over in Sincan,

a small town 25 miles from

Ankara. The town's Welfare

Party mayor had endorsed a call

by Iran's ambassador to Ankara

for the imposition of the Sharia,

Islamic law, in Turkey. Two

days later, again in Sincan, a fe-male television journalist was

assaulted by a municipal em-

ployee. Then, on 4 February, Sin-can's dawn calm was disturbed

by the rumble of 30 tanks and ar-

moured cars through the main

street. "A routine manoeuvre."

winked the top brass, who cite a constitutional obligation to pro-tect the republic's secular status.

Sophistry, reply Turks, who were reminded of coups which took

They were not alone; on

Wednesday, Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of

State, said that she too hoped

Torkey would remain secular.

The Americans have been wor-

ried by Mr Erbakan's over- many more Turks agree.

place in 1960 and 1980.

have once again focused attention on tensions between Is-

lamists and their more best efforts to plant the pious

Turks take dim view of

Islamists' rising profile



How it was done: The pilot Uri Yarom, in dark glasses, with the helicopter crew by the stella at Sarabit-al Khadim (above) before flying off with the stell hanging beneath it (top), en route for the house of Gen Dayan (top left)

longed to the state. Certain

مكذا من الاعل

items were missing. Talay Amon, curator of the Dayan collection, says the museum has 35 unique pottery coffins from 1,400 BC found in the Gaza strip acquired by Gen Dayan, but there is "no sign of the jewellery found in some of

By contrast the loot taken from Sarabit al-Khadim is back where it came from, none the worse for its sojourn in Israel, except that a large crack now runs down the face of a stela

ing to isolate internationally.

However, despite Welfare's

inside the civil service, the bull

of Turkey's state apparatus - led

by the military - appears to have

resisted the lure of Islamic re-

vivalism. Only this month, pres-

sure from the military and some

True Path ministers persuaded

Mr Erbakan to abaodon a se-

ries of innocuous-sounding

measures designed to make Turkey a more Islamic place.

These included proposals to

build a large mosque io Islan-

bul's Taksim Square, a historic

symbol of Turkey's links with the

West, and to allow female civ-

il servants to wear Islamic-style

increasingly frustrated and

there are claims that Sunni

fundamentalist groups are us-

ing a rapid increase in gun

ownership to prepare for violent

conflict. However, the army re-

mains grimly determined that

Turkey will not become like han, and dimmed dining rooms

at nine o'clock indicate that

Islamists meanwhile become

headscarves at work.

OCall the TSB Mortgage

QUOTATION LINE.

9 Go hunt that house.

Find out what you can borrow, BEFORE hunting. The call is free, the quote is free, so why not ring TSB PhoneBank for more information.

ref: INH2 0500 758 000

Mortgage Quotation Line

Cells to PhoneBank may be recorded and monspred. ATSB cheque account is required. Assigns policy may be required by the Bank as security. Applicants must be aged 18 or over At loans subject to status. Not available in the Channel blands. Wheten quotations are available on request by eating 0500 758 000 TSB Bank pic and TSB Bank Scotland pic are representatives of the TSB Marketing Group which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority only for TSB file matrance, pensions, unit trusts and measurents. Achice or recommendacions relate only to the investments of the TSB Marketing Group. TSB Bank ptc, Victoria Square. Birmingham B1 182. Registered in England and Wales. Number 1089268. TSB Bank ptc, Victoria Square. Birmingham B1 182. Registered in England and Wales. Number 1089268. TSB Bank ptc, Victoria Square. Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LH. Registered in Scotland. Number: 95237

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE

OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Leaders of genocide to

Arusha, Tanzania - Four prominent Rwandans accused of

genocide will appear in court in Tanzania for the first time on 19 and 20 February, the UN tribunal said yesterday.

Theoneste Bagosora, a former colonel in the Hntu

Rwandan army, was widely regarded as the most wanted suspect until he was extradited from jail in Cameroon to

Arusha on 23 January. A cabinet director in Rwanda's

defence ministry at the time of the 1994 genocide, he is

accused of directing events in the first days of the mass slaughter of some 800,000 people, mostly Thisis. Anatole

Ntagerura is a former minister of transport and Ferdinand

Serbs protest return to Croatia Vulcovar — Thousands of Serb protesters, blowing whistles

and horns like fellow Serbs demanding democracy in Serbia, marched in a separatist enclave in Croatia due to revert to government rule. The Eastern Slavonia enclave broke away from Croatia in 1991. It is now monitored by

5,000 UN peacekeeping troops headed by US general Tacques Klein. "Klein, God will punish you", "Give us our rights" and "We re also made of flesh and blood" were

slogans shouted in the raucous but peaceful rally. Reuter

EMU rules should be changed.

Paris — The former French president, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, yesterday called for a change in the EMU rules to allow Spain and Italy to join the starting line-up of the

European single currency.

Mr Giscard d'Estaing said the two southern countries.

Nsengiyumva is a former lieutenant-colonel. Andre

Nahimana is former director of Radio Mille Collines,

appear in court

which fanned ethnic hatred.

Britons to lose special HK status!

Hong Kong

Hong Kong's government has outlined plans to curb the visiting and residency rights of British people who have hitherto enjoyed a privileged status in the colony.

If legislation is passed on schedule, Britons will lose all privileges from l April, meaning that they will require visas to work, study or do business in Hong Kong.

More surprisingly, long-standing residents. Who have

A tale

of two

tests

skills

Koreas

China's

Richard Lloyd Parry

two days ago.

during the day.

China and South Korea will

continue delicate negotiations today on the fate of a senior

North Korean politician who

dramatically defected in Peking

The South Korean emhassy

in Peking was sealed off by

dozens of police yesterday, af-

ter the arrival there on Wednes-

day of Hwang Jang Yop, a senior adviser to the North Ko-

rean leader, Kim Jone II. Re-

ports from Peking said that

North Korean diplomats had at-

tempted to enter the compound

overnight, and remained lurk-

ing outside in parked cars

South Korea dispatched se-

nior officials to Peking to ne-

gotiate ways of hringing Mr

Hwang to Seoul, and the Chi-

nese and South Korean foreign

ministers will discuss the affair

this weekend at an international governmental meeting in

Singapore. The Foreign Min-

istry denied claims from Py-

ongvang that Mr Hwang had

been kidnapped by South Ko-

seven years, will lose their "right to land" and will not enjoy the special deportation arrangements which prevail at pre-sent. It is highly unusual, under the system of common law, to make restrospective changes.

"I look at it as a matter of changing somebody's rights," said Margaret Ng. a legislator who believes the government is pushing the hill through with unseemly haste.

However, Hong Kong's gov-ernment is under considerable pressure to remove any hint of a suggestion that Britons will enlived in the colony for more than joy any form of privilege once

sovereignty in July.

Chinese language newspa-pers yesterday published edi-torials welcoming the move and stating that it was in line with preparations for the end of British rule. However, some legislators believe that the measures do not go far enough. Chan Yuen-ha, a pro-Peking legislator, is introducing a private members bill to remove an alleged loophole under which the director of immigration has discretion in granting work

After April, Britons will be al-

the colony returns to Chinese lowed a six-month visa-free stay in Hong Kong, compared with the current 12 month period, and they will only be

allowed to visit as tourists. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get an accurate idea of how many British people remain in the colony. At the beginning of the month, the government published statistics which suggested that the number of British residents had been cut by a quarter to 25,500, in the ten months from February to December last year.

However, anecdotal evidence and reports from employers of

manual labour suggest that Britons are still flooding in to take advantage of special rules which mean they do not need to obtain work permits. On the other hand, a lot of long-standing residents, particularly civil servants, are finding their jobs being subject to localisation,

forcing them to move out. There have been no protests from the British community about the changes to the law. Christopher Hammerbeck, the executive director of the British Chamber of Commerce, said he thought the proposals were "broadly fair". He stated that izens on the same basis as other foreign nationals".

China has promised that it will not make special arrange-ments for its citizens to live in Hong Kong Indeed, fears of an infinx from the mainland have prompted the Chinese author-nies to make it clear that al-though Hong Kong is returning to the mothersand, its critzens will not be free to travel to the former British colony. Instead of getting entry permits from Hong Kong they will need per-mission from the Chinese

EU fails to block **Burma's**

Singapore

The year-long diplomatic struggle between the European Union and the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) over Burma is over, with EU governments accepting that there is nothing they can do to stop the Rangoon junta.

ber," said one at the time.

entry to Asean

joining Asean.
The EU and Asean spent two hours on the subject in Sin-gapore yesterday, in what the Foreign Secretary, Malcohn Rifkind, called "a very good exchange of views on the worrying and disturbing situation in that country and the need to see the progress towards democratic mstitutions and a return to civilian government in Burma". But, despite the increasing repressiveness of the country's State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slore), the seven Ascan countries, including Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia, seem determined to admit Burma, probably this summer. .

The dispute came to a head last June when Rangoon was admitted as an observer member. shortly before a meeting in Jakarta of the Asean Regional Forum, which includes the United States, Japan, and the European Commission. Ever since 1990, when the Slore ignored the results of an election won by the democracy leader Aung San garded as a pariah state in many western capitals, and the presence of the Burmese foreign minister at the Jakarta conference caused outrage among European diplomats. "It's as if the EU took on Libya as a mem-

At an Asean meeting in November the argument was won by Malaysia and Indonesia, who insist that only through "positive engagement" can Rangoon be integrated into the international community. Burma is expected to be formally admitted, along with Laos and Cambodia, in Kuala Lumpur, on the 30th anniversary of Asean's foundation in

Richard Lloyd Parry

should be allowed to sign up for the single currency with other countries early next year even if their economies fail to meet the guidelines laid out in the Maastricht treaty. They would then be allowed to peg the lire and the peseta to the euro from the target date of January 1999 if their economies meet the entry conditions by that time.

In an interview with the International Herald Tribune, the former French President said it would be unhealthy for the EU if only northern European countries joined the Euro in

OJ experts join murder inquiry
Los Angeles — Two leading figures in the OJ Simpson case
have joined the task force investigating the murder of sixyear-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey. Henry Lee, one of the world's foremost forensic scientists, and attorney and DNA expert Barry Scheck were instrumental in persuading a criminal jury in 1995 that blood evidence against Simpson was flawed. But they are now advising prosecutors in Boulder, Colorado. There are no named suspects and no acrests in the Ramsey case, seven weeks after her battered and strangled body was found in the basement of her family's home. Her wealthy parents, John and Patricia Ramsey, hired John Douglas, a former FBI agent, and model for an investigator in the film Silence of the Lambs. Clinton farewell to Harriman

Washington - President Bill Clinton bade farewell to Pamela Harriman with the words of Winston Churchill, calling her an American who "felt to her bones" her adopted country's greatness. The funeral for the US ambassador to France, who died last week, was held at Washington's National Cathedral.

Solana winds up CIS trip

Moscow-Nato Secretary-General Javier Solana wound up a tour of four Russian allies, ending a trip that inked Russian leaders who oppose the alliance's plans to expand into Eastern Europe. Mr Solana visited the former Soviet republics of Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, all of them members of the Russian-led Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) as well as Nato's Partnership for il Presid Yastrzhembsky accused Solana of having an "undeclared, undercover reason" for the trip.

Albright backs Netanyahu Washington - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright assured Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu she will give her strong personal attention to peacemaking in the Middle East. Meeting at Blair House, they agreed that Arab-Israeli agreements should be based on reciprocity. Mr Netanyahu told Ms Albright that Israel has fulfilled the

commitments it made to the Palestinians and the Arabs and that he expects the Palestinians to reciprocate. Progress on landmine ban

Vienna — Momentum to ban land mines world-wide gathered as a top UN official said the issue will almost certainly be on the agenda of a UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva within two months. "My expectation is that within a month or two we should find an agreement [to discuss landmines] on the agenda," UN Deputy Secretary-General Vladimir Petrovsky, who is also head of the Conference on Disarmament, said.

Mandela warns of Swazi chaos Harare - Sonth African President Nelson Mandela said the situation in Swaziland, where strikers are trying to bring down an absolute monarchy, was "explosive A national strike began 10 days ago in the small southern African state, where trade unions have crippled the country's vital sugar and timber export industries.

'Don't set me free' plea Jerusalem - A Palestinian woman convicted of drug

offences and due to be released from an Israeli prison has refused to leave jail. "She doesn't want to leave." an Israeli prisons spokeswoman said of Zaynab Abu Sido, who was due to he freed along with 30 other Palestinian woman prisoners earlier this week under an Israel-PLO peace deal. A prisons source said she feared she would be ostracised if forced to return to Palestinian self-rule areas.



No-win situation: Chinese police discussing tactics outside the South Korean embassy yesterday Photograph: Reuters

home from an international conference in Tokyo, but official utterances in Seoul were lackas the country which intering in the hysteria which often vened in the Korean War, and characterises relations with the indirectly brought about the 45-year-old division of the Diplomats on all sides seem to realise that this is serious: peninsula. With the South, it also has full diplomatic relations quite apart from the humiliation and flourishing two way trade. to the unpredictable North Ko-It is almost inconceivable that rean government, the defection China will jeopardise these and creates a diplomatic dilemma outrage international opinion by for China which cannot but sending Mr Hwang back to Py-ongyang. But if he is allowed to cause offence to one of its two quarrelsome neighbours. go to Seoul, it could seriously harm the only significant friend-ship which North Korea has left

Since initiating its market reforms, China has been more successful than any other counin the world. try in balancing relations with The precise motives and ex-Seoul and Pyongyang. With the act circumstances behind the de-North, it enjoys close relations

Hwang, along with a North faked. It urges the South to strengthen its military and internal security forces, and aban-workers, farmers, and intellecer by the publication yesterday of two documents bearing his The first, a rambling and

emotional letter said to have been written a month ago, and passed on via an unnamed South Korean businessman in Peking, appeared on the front page of the Chosun Ilbo, a leading Seoul newspaper. Opposition parties pointed out that it contains several striking echoes of South Korean government policy, and were fection of 72-year old Mr prompt to suggest that it was

don any hope of negotiation with Pyongyang. North Korea is waiting for the moment to turn the South into a sea of fire and tries to dissolve the South from within," it said.

But it also contained bitter criticism of Kim Jong II, the son of North Korea's president, Kim Il Sung, who has presided over three years of floods, food shortages and economic failure.

"The 'ever-so-great general'
has come to believe that he is really a genius after all the idolatry showered on him praistuals starve to death be a socialist society?" The second document was a

note said to have been written by Mr Hwang since his defection. 'After a long period of agonising deliberation, I have decided to leave the North and have a broader discussion with South Korean authorities about how to save our nation from misery," it reads. "Beginning with my family, people will de-cide that I'm mad. But the question is: Am I the only mad

Lorry drivers paralyse northern Spain

Elizabeth Nash Madrid

The northern half of Spain was paralysed yesterday by a lorry-drivers' strike that unions said would spread throughout the country in coming days.
As the strike, in support of

better working conditions, entered as second week, factories in the industrialised Basque country closed through lack of supplies and shops were stripped of foodstuffs as shop-

ment appealed for the drivers to negotiate and indicated that they would increase the subsidy to gasoil, one of their key de-mands. But last night ministers sounded a pessimistic note.

Some 50 British lorrydrivers were stuck in Bilbao and 10 had to be escorted by police through picket lines. Representatives from the development, labour, economy and industry ministries mel some transport as-sociations yesterday, but the

OFFER CAR +5 RETURN

called the strike, refused to

In the most serious incident in the dispute so far a picket was run over near Burgos and killed vesterday morning when he ran into the road to stop a French trucker from passing. In addition to reducing the

retirement age to 60 years from 65, drivers are pushing for diesel subsidies, a revision of rates and recognition of occupational illnesses. The respon-

gado, said he might move on wer diesel prices hut needed more time to consider the other issues. The Interior Ministry ordered security forces to guarantee essential supplies to

Car manufacturers were worst hit by the strike. Re-nault's Spanish unit FASA-Renault stopped production at plants in Valladolid and Palencia. In the Basque region, Michelin said it would be paral-

ysed if the strike continued. Mercedez-Benz shnt its plants in Barcelona and Vitoria, while production at General Motors unit Opel in Aragon, Citroen in Vigo and Nissan in Barcelona also stopped. Other companies including Firestone, Campofrio, and Asturiana del Zinc said they had been disrupted by a lack of supplies.

One driver was slightly injured on Wednesday when he was hit on the head by a stone the government to agree swift-while trying to fill up his truck by to their demands.

province. Pickets were also injured in clashes with police. Fedatrans warned the chaos

would worsen and said it had brought another leading union on board, Fenadismer, while others were mulling a call to workers to take action. Taxi driver unions are also contemplating joining the strike

from Monday. Fedatrans said

the only solution would be for

FROM EARLY SUMMER BOOKING

FOLKESTONE TO BOULOGNE 55 MINUTES

Spring into Summer with a great offer from Hoverspeed! Take advantage of these special Early Booking Fares from only £79 return - perfect for your Summer holiday. Let SeeCat speed you from Folkestone to Boulogne in only 55 minutes Or fly Dover - Calais by Hovercraft in just 35 minutes. The fares are valid for travel throughout 1997. Folkestone - Boulogne: £79 return; must be booked by 30/4/97. Dover - Calais bookings by 31/3/97: £99 return, Dover - Calais bookings by 30/4/97: £109 return.

STILL THE FASTEST WAY TO FRANCE



CALL RESERVATIONS 0990 240241 or see your travel agent. See us on the internet at: http://www.hoverspeed.co.uk/

significant shorts

and term interest stability stability pas been put are longer term Molens, writes indrew Gumbel

WALLEY WAR Carried Street the legace her A DAY AND WAR in the man Talk treiter 1. 10 to 100 to 100 to

Saprania The

wisensha. The properties

Data N.

Mint of the Late of Mary . Markage our month fight. Abrech turn in the way the Certaterritories de la contrata este demonstrating only the ceen dates the responding so man bill but andered

But with the first of the state of pare from the military, Serbead Torker Beenle true materials berry district to a link with magnetic acres the lords udheammer or 40 years. burger Kashington transport course. well brown in his last kinds of a a Shanderton could not hip an independence interes. and and the contains bell for the bis shorts after the desirit Albana became a constant m

won tight at the beginning of Commit Burney Was Inter MIbondence the Lord World Wite-Mercu and the latter transcription and Renewing your he

in February o llyou are 50 or over, you could save

with Saga call us NOW SAGA House Institutes.

cooler vin a maine Millian under traffical. Micros, while governg longwei that heift busicly boar penits. and proper values

pe ? and Lance Laurine Rym and mother compacitate factors at a post buck within manths of taking out 2464 House Mentales. at all taling best the

นา

1.54

ıth

Their prominent Rwandans are in court in Euromai for the fact the IN Iribunal said was in court in faut min for the fact the UN tribunal said venture fact the UN tribunal said venture fact the most action of the fact the most act the most act the most act the most act the fact t

the time to the first days of ince minister of transport and real feature of Radio Mille Collection test return to Cros

and of Serb protesters blowings 1 & Apparatist enclary in Crosside ant rule. The Fastern Slavoniant and rule. The Fastern Slavoniant frontin in 1991. It is now monimal appling troops headed by 18 genutation. Cod will punish you. "Genutation made of flesh and blooding the saucous but peaceful talk."

should be changed a french president, Valery Gistal a change in the ENU. trady to join the starting line-mote thing said the two southern come

to tight sip for the single current to their economic their economic their economic their economic their trial out in the Maastrich man e allowed to peg the life and the per target date of January 1999 the e entry conditions by that time with the International Herald Inter sident said it would be unhealing 3 European countries joined the

join murder inquisite of sure in the OJ Singuis a force investigating the marder of sen JonBenet Ramsey, Henvile, not forensic scientists, and atme may Scheck were instrumentalia put jury in 1995 that blood order is flawed. But they are now adding der, Colorado. There are no me cats in the Ramsey case, seems ad strangled in its was found in nily's home. Her wealthe parent of an investigator in the film Mer-

ewell to Hamman deat Bill Clinton bade farevely the the warras of Winston China. The tree of forther the functal for the 15 pe, who died last neck was hid and Controded.

ne a fless engling a true that ited depose the alliance colars was Armenta and Azalic of the Russian led Commons (CIS) as well as Nato's Panacial Mention speakesman Sergei and Soluna of having an under

was up CIS trip

cks Netanyanu

My of State Madelene Albid t Minister Benjamin Netanahé practial attention to peaceming eting at Blan House, they and ents should be based on requestion Albright that Israel has falled s to the Palestanians and the M be Palestinums to reciprocate

n landmine ban un ter bent lamit mines muld-mit I official said the issue wil aims genda of a UN Conference eva waltin two months. "M thin a month or move should neral Vladana Petrosky shape ce on Disamament, sad

arns of Swazi cha can President Neben Mandes land, where strikers are tring he morrarchi, was "explosite m 10 days ago in the small small charles tunions have crippled the nd timber expert moustness

ne free' plea mian woman convicted of the tricked from an Israel par She doesn't want to leave all said of Paynab that Side all with Marsia and with Marsia Palestinan and seek under an Israel proper and she letter she will be return to Palestinian self-uks



State by Edward Constitution 240241 me novembra de la la

of genocide h M court

SY 1997 - THE INDEPEN

Why has Europe turned a blind eye to the corruption that has poisoned a nation?

بكذا من الاعل

Short-term interest in political stability has been put above longer-term problems, writes Andrew Gumbel

The evidence amassed by Western intelligence agents of collusion by the Albanian government in criminal rackets will come as no surprise to anyone familiar with the country and its lawless environment. What is surprising, however, is why the governments receiving the intelligence reports have chosen for the most part to turn a blind eye.

The allegations are very serious. Drugs, arms, contraband cigarettes all are believed to have been handled by a company run openly by the ruling Democratic Party, Shorponja, while it was in operation. The company, which has also been



dazzied Western politicians

accessed of breaking the embargo on Serbia and Montenegro during the Bosnian war by shipping oil across Lake Shkoder and by sea to Bar, was wound up in January 1996, but socording to intelligence sources contacted by The Independent its. activities are continuing.
Agron Musarai, Interior Minister
until last May's general elections, was

pressured out of his job, the intelligence sources say, because the United States, the one Western country to take a critical stance on Albania, told the government it suspected that he was masterminding the entire drugs racket. During Mr Musaraj's tenure, Al-

banian police made only one signif-icant drugs haul, seizing some three on Vefa Holdings, Albania's largest kilos of heroin in Pebruary 1995. But private company and the biggest of



sources within the police said at the fime this was only a small portion of a much larger shipment bound for Italy, the rest of which got away across the Adriatic primpeded.

In the course of 1996 open afle-ations, considered coedible by the intelligence community, surfaced in Albania that the Defence Minister, Safet Zhulali, had used his office to facilitate the transport of arms, oil and contraband cigarettes. He is still

the country's pyramid schemes still hbi Alimucaj; is a former army supplies manager who is accused of becoming rich by trafficking goverroment armaments with the consent

of the rating order. Why has the West put up with this behaviour, and allowed Albania to turn into a festering sore of criminality and potential destabilisation in what is already the most sensitive region in Europe? The reasons are far from clear but have to do with. the international community's mas is investors beckoned. placed priorities in Albania, a fatal

misreading of the nature of President in operation. Vefa's chairman, Ve- Sali Berisha's government from an early stage and - to believe the intelligence sources - degree of obstinacy and sheer ignorance.

The West allowed itself to be daz-zled by the achievement, of President Berisha's first two years affice, dur-ing which the country with rescued from the brink of chaosaid starvation, consumer goods flooded in, inflation was brought under control, the currency was stabilised and the promise of full amenibles to outside During the recent Balkan wars, it were all overlooked.

was considered essential for Albania to remain peaceful and refrain from stirring up trouble among the ethnic Albanian communities of Kosovo and Macedonia.

President Berisha was considered the right man for this job, and as a result his ever-deteriorating record on civil liberties, his gradual suppression of the opposition and the independent media, his purges of state institutions, including the judiciary, and his exclusion of more and more of his most talented former col-. leagues in the Democratic Party,

Photograph: Reinhard Krause/Reuters

In all the euphoria about doubledigit growth rates, few bothered to notice that the revenue was almost all coming from criminal activity or artificial sources, such as foreign aid and remittances sent home by Albanians working abroad. For all the talk of free markets, foreign investors have been kept firmly out of Albama's clientelistic system and the country still has little in the way of legitimate productive economy.

It was only in the run-up to the May 1996 elections that the international community began to worry about the deteriorating political

haps, because the war in Bosnia was over, and the security priorities had changed. The International Monetary Fund suspended its credit lines because of excessive pre-electoral public spending and initial concern about the sprouting pyramid schemes, and the United States. once President Berisha's greatest champion, began to issue more critical public statements.

In the wake of the blatanthy rieged elections, the US refused to recognise the new parliament and issued its private warnings to the govern-ment about ministerial involvement in the drugs trade. A CLA report published in June is believed to have been very tough on Albania and grintly pessimistic about the prospects for the future.

This turnanound in US attitudes appears to have passed most of Enrope by During the summer Raly and Germany, two of President Berisha's closest allies, actively lighted to a special Emopean Union agreement with Albania - thus opening new credit lines and conterring further legitminey on the government. The proposal failed largely because at least some European countries had been sufficiently shocked by the rigged May elections to demand some progress on democratisation in return for further favours

Eren with the collapse of the pyramid schemes and the escalating spiral of violence now racking the country, some Europeans have failed to wake up to the gravity of the sitnation, persisting in the belief that economic and trading interests are best served by this government.

As recently as two weeks ago, dichard Berisha fans such as Leni Fischer, President of the Assembly of the Council of Europe, were issuing statements of support for the Democratic Party and echoing Albanim government rhetoric about "red terrorists" destabilising the country. According to une intelligence

source, politicians in his country have been so dogged in their attitude that they may not have bothered to read the alarming intelligence reports and indeed may out have even seen them because their underlines figured it was futile passing them on.

European diplomats in Tirana appear to have been equally cautious. failing to report back anything that might interfere with the deeply misguided notions about Albania villi prevalent in Western capitals, it was a mistake, one that has already cost Albania dearly and which will come back to haunt Europe.

egacy of conflict and misrule

Although famed down the centuries for its proud, fiercely in-dependent-minded people, the country did not achieve autonomy until 1912 but suffered under successive waves of conquerors from Byzantium, Ser-

bia and Turkey. The only true national hero was Giorgi Kastrioti, a 15th century warrior who kept the Turks out of the country for 40 years. But even Kastrion, more commonly known by his Tirkish epithet Skanderbeg, could not forge an independence move-ment and the country fell to the Turks shortly after his death.

Albania became a country in its own right at the beginning of the century. Two years into in-dependence the First World War broke out and the Italians moved

If you are 50

or over, you

call us NOW

SAGA Home Insurance

can offer you genuine

savings over other policies, while giving

you cover that fully

protects your home

If you find another

comparable policy at

2 months of taking out

we will refund you the

difference.

SAGA Home Insurance,

a lower price within

The Saga Price Promise

and possessions.

could save with Saga

When it comes to rulers, Alba-nia has never had much link. er-hungry autocrat called Alimed Zoen seized control and had him-

Yugoslavia and the country re-

Insurance cover is

low cost

quotation

Call us today

comprehensive and

Discounts for home

Free pen with your

For your free no obligation onote simply call us on the manther below. We will

questions you have on SAGA

0800

414 525

Quoting reference

ID2706

be pleased to answer any

self crowned King Zog.
Then followed more Italian

Albania had plenty to be paranoid about. Chunks of what might have been considered its natural territory, in Kosovo and Macedonia, were ceded to ned an uncertain satellite of the Belgrade authorities for several decades thereafter.

Renewing your home insurance

in February or March?

occupation more war, a civil conflict pitting Communists against royalists against republicans, and finally a 45-year period of Stalmist-inspired paranoid isolationism under the quirky dictator, Enver Hox-

The Communist period ended in 1990 in mass strikes

ries of fragile transition gov-ernments, democracy at last arrived in April 1992 with the election victory of Sali Berisha and his Democratic Party.

But Mr Berisha's colleagues deserted him, accusing him of re-verting to Hoxha-like amboritarian tactics, and within three months his government crashed

to defeat in local elections.

Albania has reverted to depressing historical precedent ever since. This time, though, the people have tasted contact with different values. That may not be enough to sustain them through what promise to be some turbulent months ahead, but it may yet be the key to bet-

MALE

FEMALE

Fashion Spring/Summer 1st March 1997

In association with

PAUL MITCHELL

Order a copy from your nearest newsagent.

* THE INDEPENDENT IT IS ARE YOU?



Wherever you left your heart, we make it easier to stay in touch.



Your true romance overseas will run a whole lot smoother with the AT&T Calling Service What's more, you'll pay substantially less on your phone bill (only 16 pence per minute evening rate to San Francisco), so you'll be able to smooth talk a loved one for a whole lot longer. With AT&T Call Plans, international and long distance calls are simplicity itself You don't need to bother about a new phone number. Just dial 143 before the number wou're calling and you're through. It's as easy as that. You'll enjoy great savings and our 24 hour customer care department will ensure you experience no heartbreak.

Join one of our Call Plans by 28 February and we'll also offer you £5 of free calls.

CALL FOR YOUR PLAN 0800 143 143

the recommend joining this served if your quarterly telephone but a more than (10) themberst
(2.99 per quarter Prices quotest actual VAT, ATAT cath are subject to a 3.5% penus call scenars
the ATAT Calling Serves is supplied by ATAT Communications 1231 270

Daniil Shafran

The great Russian cellist Daniil Shafran seldom appeared in Britain but when he did the hall would be packed with celehrities and fellow cellists and their response was overwhelming. Because of his highly individual style, Shafran aroused strong feelings. To his admirers, he was regarded with an almost religinus reverence; to the unconvinced, he remained an enigma.

I heard him at the Wigmore Hall in June 1995 and I found his performance riveting, even if the risks did not always come off. His playing revealed a profound musicality and a subtle lyricism producing a tone that was rich and mellow. Perhaps the most extraordinary aspect was his ability for painting every possible tone colnur at will.

Shafran was born in 1923, in Petrograd (which the following year became Leningrad), and was the son of the principal cellist of the Leningrad Symphony Orchestra. From early childhood he begged to have lessons on the cello but his father, who held strong views on teaching, resisted his request until he was eight years old. He told him that be could learn provided he was prepared to work hard and devote his life to becoming a professional musician. Oth-erwise he should forget it. The boy chose to accept his father's challenge and never complained about the long hours of practice which were expected of him. A legacy from this time was that throughout his professional life he would always put on full evening dress for the final rehearsal of any performance: his father maintained that an artist could be compared with a soldier planning an operation and a dress rehearsal was de rigueur.

At the age of 10, Shafran was admitted to the Special Music School, part of the Leningrad Conservatory, as a pupil of Alexander Shtrimer, who was not only a first-class teacher but also knowledgeable in art and

David Waller was, as Shake-

speare says in Coriolanus, "a

great sea mark", a rollying

point, an example and a role

model. His contribution as an

actor to a great period in the his-

tory of the Royal Sbakespeare

Company, from the Sixtles on-

wards, was immense and his

fect on all the people who knew

He was born in Street in Som-

erset in 1920, the son of an ar-

chitect who had been forced

through ill-health to live a coun-

try life and, accordingly, became a market gardener. Waller went

to a Quaker school in Yorkshire

before training at the Embassy

School of Acting, in London, in

1937-38. His early professional

life took him to the Old Vic

Theatre, interspersed with en-

gagements with various (mostly

long-departed) repertory com-

panies, including, in 1955, the

Irswich Arts Theatre Company.

ing actor came to town. In

truth, I had something of an en-

tree to the stage door of the

intimate lpswich Theatre be-

cause, only a little more than a

year before. I had played a role

there, which had been an

ambition-shaping experience.

So I felt like a partisan and pos-

sessive football supporter

doubtfully weighing up the

erful, a centre-half not a centre-

forward. But he took risks, he

transformed himself and he

Waller was fleshy and pow-

club's new signing.

I was 15 when this new lead-

him was palpable.

literature and all things cultural. Therefore, from an early age, Shafran's approach to music was multi-dimensional. It was Sbtrimer who was re-

sponsible for Shafran's tone colour. He maintained that a musician must be aware of everything going on around him, should know about the colours of the grass, the trees and the sky and be able to ex-press the drama in everything. Shafran gave me an example – Debussy's Claire de Lune. His teacher once asked him: "Have you ever seen moonlight? You must see it before you can play it." At that moment I recalled Shafran's playing of that piece as an encore when he almost physically re-created the chill of the moonlight.
Shafran made his first solo

appearance at the age of 12 when he played two virtuoso pieces by David Popper, Spinning Song and Elfentanz. That same year he made his public solu début playing the Tchaikovsky Rocco Variations with kovsky Rococo Variations with the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra directed by the British Albert Coates, for which he received rave reviews. He told me that Coates gave him an excellent piece of advice which he never forgot. "Never hurry on and off the platform hut stroll as if you are taking a teisurely walk in Hyde Park.

Shafran made his first recording of the Rococo Varia-tions in 1937 when he was only 14, and the same year entered the National Competitioo in Moscow. As he was under age the judges allowed him to play first, but he confounded them by taking first prize, thus de-feating all the adult candidates. Part of the prize was the presentation of a beautiful Antonio Amati cello that he played always for the rest of his life, and loved as if it were his child.

In 1943, Shafran became a soloist with the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra and toured

Waller in the RSC's The Comedy of Errors

made texts come alive. His

crew-cut, hrutal, sergeant-of-

the-line Iago wasn't Shake-

speare recited, or spoken, or

sung - it was Shakespeare lived,

inhahited and transformed.

And so I hecame his most pas-

ed when submitting to my stage-

door conversations and I was

devastated when he told me

that, though he hated the no-

madic actor's life, he was mov-

ing on to previously grazed

He was kindly and interest-



internationally with them meeting success everywhere he went. He won the International Competition in Budapest in 1949 and the following year shared the first prize in the Prague In-ternational Competition with Rostropovich. He made his American début in 1960 at Carnegie Hall, his British début at the Wigmore Hall in 1964 followed by his orchestral début playing Prokofiev's Symphony Concerto at the Royal Festival

In 1971 the Soviet government conferred upon Sbafran the title of People's Artist of the

David Waller

Photograph: Clive Barda

pastures at the Old Vic.

Around this time, he experi-

mented with directing and writ-

ing, and played small roles in the

er, in 1963, I was asked to di-

rect my first professional

production at the Belgrade

Theatre in Coventry and I needed to cast the leading role of a dominating Welsh patriarch

(very unsentimental, very fun-

ny), 1 proposed Waller and was

stupefied to be told that he had

When, a number of years lat-

USSR. He served on the jury of many international competi-tions and from 1974 until his death, he chaired the jury of the cello section of the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow.

For the last 10 years or so he gave master-classes all over Europe and in Japan. In 1995 he gave one at the Menuhin School in Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey, where reports were enthusiastic. He held strong views on the teaching of the present time: "I think many teachers today are obsessed with technical perfection and because they

gether and was intending to run

After some pleading tele-

phone calls, be agreed to give

what be called "that awful busi-

ness, the theatre" one more try.

He was, as 1 expected, superb

as the Father in Gwyn Thomas's

springy board was launched a

thrillingly demanding period

of work together. His wife, Lys,

moved to join him and we lived

in adjoining flats in Coventry

while Waller played parts like

Azdak in The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Belch in Twelfih Night, Musgrave in Sergeant Mus-

grave's Dance, The Narrator in

Under Milk Wood, and Trelawny

in a version of Treasure Island

which we wrote together. It

couldn't last, of course, but the

inevitable termination of this

joyous period was Waller's el-

evation to the Royal Shake-

speare Company, just a few

miles down the road at Strat-

ford. In 1966 he became an As-

sociate Artist of the RSC, which

was something of a dream come

follow in his footsteps to the

RSC, 1 shared a house with

David and Lys Waller in Strat-

ford for nearly two years and

When I was lucky enough to

a travel agency.

importance of the emotional aspect of playing, they are unable to pass it on," he told me. Although his playing was so passionate and charged with

emotion, as a man he was courteous, rather reserved and possessed of an old-world charm. He will be remembered as one of the legends in a musical world dominated far too often by clinical perfection.

Margaret Campbell Daniil Shafran, cellist: born Petrograd 13 January 1923; married (one daughter); died Moscow 7

in Hamlet, a rustic philosophic

Friar Lawrence in Romeo and

Juliet - and he became in-

creasingly a central figure in the

RSC, playing Northumberland in Peter Hall's great Wars of the

Roses (1963), Pandarus in John

Barton's great Troibus and Cres-sida (1968), Bottom in Peter-

Brook's great Midsummer

Night's Dream (1970); and in

1969 shared the triumph of

Harold Pinter's hypnotic two-

hander Landscape with Peggy

Ashcroft, who thought of him

him, beart disease led "Wal" to

do less as the years passed. But,

for me, he had become some

thing of a surrogate father. I re-

lied on his instincts and could

sense his disapproval: his

barometer of taste and mood

was unfailing. His appetite for

life and sense of fun belied his

somewhat bank-managerial ex-

terior; his generosity and pas-

sionate loyalty were surprising

in one so outwardly reserved -his love of wife and home, of

theatre and Shakespeare, of

continuity and collaboration

pulsed through his features in

unexpected and unconcealable

rushes of feeling that would em-

barrass him as much as they

the joint owners and mort-

gagors of their home. They fell into arrears to a substantial

extent and the plaintiff mort-

gagee sought possession.
The defendant claimed that

be was only in arrears because

of actions taken by associate

companies of the plaintiff, by

whom he was employed as a

mortgage provider and by

whom he had been wrongfully

dismissed. He said be had a

good claim against the associ-

ate companies for a sum in ex-

cess of what was owing on the

mortgage, and that in those cir-

curnstances the judge should

not make an order for posses-

sion against him, or at least not

make it enforceable before the

ceed on his dismissal claim, that

would provide no defence to a

hearing of his claim.

Just as with his father before

as a soul mate.

left the theatre business alto- ing; be was a violent Claudius

Cardinal Mikel Koliqi

Mikel Koliqi survived 38 years religious organisations. He -about Koliqi's fate and the fate of imprisonment in Enver Hox- spent the next five years in of his colleagues during the ha's jails to become, at the age of 92, a member of the highest body in the Roman Catholic with him were shot. Church, the College of Cardinals. The first Albanian to be raised to the Sacred College, he was apparently chosen as the

oldest of the 30 or so Catholic priests to have survived the Communist persecutions. "Imprisoned and prevented for long years in the exercise of his priestly mission," Pope John Paul wrote in the wake of his death, "he, as a solid oaktree, never became intimidated, becoming a shining example of trust in Divine Providence as well as constant fidelity to the See of Peter."

Born in Shkodra in 1902,

Koliqi was educated by the Jesuits who, recognising his in-telligence and potential, sent him for study at the Aricci Col-lege in Brescia in Italy. Among his schoolmates was the future Pope John XXIII. He went on to study engineering at Milan University before transferring to the theology faculty. He was or-dained priest in Shkodra in 1931 and was appointed a cu-rate at the cathedral parish. In 1936 he became parish priest at the cathedral, as well as vicar general of the Shkodra archdiocese. As a young priest he was involved in youth work and Catholic journalism. He was also the founder of Catholic Action in Albania, as well as writing three operas that are credited with being the foundation of an Albanian

He was arrested in Fehruary 1945 as the new Communist dictatorship tightened its grip on

prison, mostly in solitary confinement. Two priests arrested

He was then transferred to forced labour and had to work from dawn to dusk in the fields or digging drainage channels in a malaria-infested region of Albania, reporting daily to the secret police. He lived in a single room with no furniture and was avoided by the locals as a class enemy. He was again arrested in

1967 - the year religion was completely outlawed in Albania - and was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for anti-Communist agitation, accused of listening to foreign radio broadcasts and conducting religious work with young people. He was freed after nine years and returned to his home town of Shkodra. Although by now any priestly work was forbidden, and despite his age, he ministered in secret to those who sought him out.

After the lifting of the ban on religion in 1990, Koliqi re-sumed work in the open, in par-ticular helping refound a Catholic press. He also became a key figure in the society of expolitical prisoners. On his 90th birthday, Pope John Paul sent him a special greeting which was passed on by the apostolic nun-cio at a special mass in Koliqi's. house chapel. He also received the Torch of Democracy award from the Albanian president

Pope John Paul sought him out on his one-day visit to Al-hania on 25 April 1993 and the two were able to have a long discussion – both speaking Italian 1997.

Communist era.

The news of Koliqi's elevation to the College of Cardinals - announced in late October 1994 - was given a tremendous reception at a special mass in the cathedral in Shkodra, his home town and the Catholic stronghold in the north of this traditionally mostly Muslim

न्यु स्थानु स्थि 🕏

ura; if

i ingilia 🕏

Let Humig

Committee West

्रात्सी सहस्र भी

1,12 2,884 BH A

الهائد ويبين

ar wife be

A ... (4) 5.39% 3456

THE PERSON

LONG COLLEGE

· 11: 16: 17:4 .

ots. English

a leap

the dark

2.724 14 15 15

maril our service of the

TESTED IN A April 202

Allow tool and the

Martiner of the spraw

application of the state

A SECTION AND A SECTION

Sectional areas as the standards

William Control

deast at day, to that!

Better State Part of 111

managed to be the property of the features of the feature of the f

ament spending per it. set us

minimum in the facility of the fire.

they that there is written at the

bedoned with Section

proceeding profittion will be

edifferentie i a same pe abore

and Last mouth the Chief

the brases William

cular written and a than infragilla sittle account. gardprobard the tours of " John the surface into the London of the surface of the s

denne admitted at a

Steps "identification"

And the Land

Service Liter to

brothe i mon

Man of State
Steen East November

and memory than the

Address of the time of the time

A september 1 of the first of t

Statement of the state of the s

group people of the property of the people o

Sally Deposit of the House of the Sally

being the min of the first part of the first par

Separate distriction of the state of the sta

in promise the state of the sta

Cand brane and the fe

be and bottom in a still the re-

Supply of the structure of the fire

Charles I all a state of the form

property of the state of the st

Comparation of the state of the

Comment of the state of the sta state of the second

Morn wille

Man Man Sandar

Chelly Hills of the state of the safe of t

Separate of the state of the service
Lilin mad

damento Williams

San and the star in the

Picting to the start of trap

Thomsepore "Lor as time attention ;

State of the state of the state of

€22.74. ×

Location is

4.16

2570

de de

kar.

Market on the Health

country. Koliqi was perhaps the most surprising of the new cardinals appointed by Pope John Paul in the 1994 consistory. At the age of 92 he was already the third oldest cardinal and was way over the age beyond which cardinals cannot vote in a conclave. Koliqi always stressed that the award of a cardinal's hat was not because of his merit but was to all who suffered with him. He expressed his anxiety about what he called his "huge responsibilities" and said he was afraid that people would now re-gard him as the Pope's special epresentative in Albania.

Koliqi lived out his last years with his niece and her family m a small flat near Shkodra cathedral. Always ready to welcome visitors, despite his frailty, he would recount his prison experiences without bitterness. He was ever eager to show the photographs of the consistory, proudly pointing out his nephews and nieces who were present to share what he called the "highlight" of his life.

Mikel Koligi, priest: born Shko-dra, Albaria 29 September 1902; ordained priest 1931; Cardinal 1994; died Shkodra 28 January

Michael Goldsmith

Michael Goldsmith was one of the post-war generation of British aircraft engineers who rose to top management and laid the foundations of Britain's current pre-eminence in commercial aerospace. Airbus is today a British Aerospace success story, hut it might have been otherwise without Goldsmith. Airbus had been set up in 1966 as a European civil aerospace industry consortium, to pull together Europe's fragmented efforts to compete with the Americans in the world jetliner market. The British government pulled out of Airbus in March 1969, leaving Britain's aerospace industry to fend for itself. Tony Benn, then Harold Wilson's technology minister, said, "I cannot see one

factor in favour of Airbus. My In May 1969 the French and German governments went ahead without the British, link with Airbus in place." whose aerospace industry, the Like his French and German industrial partner responsible for designing the A300's wings, now had to maintain its place on

technical merit and its own investment. The French official attitude, especially when new projects like the A310 and A320 came along, was: "We can design and build wings too, you know."
In this politically negative atmosphere, the presence of Goldsmith, a professional aerospace engineer greatly respect-ed by his French and German

colleagues, helped to keep the British industry in Airbus. He did this by skilled technical advocacy and diplomacy and unremitting hard work. In September 1979, when he was managing director of the British Aerospace Hatfield-

Chester division responsible for Airbus wings, Goldsmith saw



the British government rejoin Airbus, when it was clearly proving to be a success, as a full member. He had worked for this as executive director of British Aerospace Airbus, from 1973 to 1977. Goldsmith later said: "I like to think that I was the thin thread which kept our

counterparts Roger Bateille and Felix Kracht, who became personal friends, Goldsmith was an engineer with business flair. He had to assess technical and financial risks over the long life-cycle of an airliner project, typically 20 years. He had a rare feel for what technology and manufacturing can do and what the market will want and can afford. Airbus has now sold more than 2,000 aircraft and has won 40 per cent of the

market, second only to Boeing. Born in Dorking in 1932, Michael Goldsmith won a scholarship to Epsom College. His love of aviation then drew him to the de Havilland Aeronautical Technical College, Hatfield, which taught hands-on factory skills as well as the theories of

aerodynamics, structures and

materials. He was awarded a scholarship to Imperial Col-lege, London, and learnt to fly with the London University Air Squadron, going solo after only four hours on Chipmonks. His first job as a qualified aeronautical engineer and pilot was in the de Havilland aerodynamics de-partment at Hatfield in 1955. He rose through sales engineering and project management to be-come managing director of BAe Hatfield in 1978.

Goldsmith's talents also made their mark on other Britisb Aerospace products, including the Trident, 125-800 business jet, and the 146 regional jetliner. The 146 Avro RJ has become the Britain's best-selling jetliner with more than 300 ordered to date, thanks to its hrisk airfield per-formance and the extra wide

project manager, had advocated.
Mike Goldsmith was 6ft 6m. tall, handsome and possessing that quality much needed in European doglighting - an excellent sense of humour. He also had the gravitus, calmness and diplomacy necessary to handle staff, superiots and political and financial luminaries of the Airbus supervisory board. All

regarded him highly. He had to retire in 1988 at the carty age of 55, cruelly incapacitated by a rare form of ataxia which leads to total loss of speech and mobility. He suffered this affliction with indomitable courage, supported by his wife Betty. His intellectual powers and humour remained undimmed.

J. M. Ramsden

Michael John Goldsmith, engineer: born Dorking, Sumey 20 August 1932; married 1958 Betty Bigwood (two sons); died Webvytt, Hertfordshire 24 January 1997.

Announcements for Grzette BIRTHS.
MARRIAGES & HEATHS (Rirths,
Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in rial services, Wedding annh ersaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour unswering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line IVAT extra. OTHER Gazette announcements must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

Synagogue services

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 4.58pm. Cuited Synagogues: 0181-343 8989, Federation of Synagogues: 0181-282 2263, Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663, Reform Synagogues of Great Britaine 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573, Neg-London Synagogue 19171-178 dou Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Dutie of Lindsupph, Pattorn, Optional Bound to Phonds the Lindsupph, Pattorn, Optional Bound to Phonds the Lindsupph Bound General Common at the 19 Pattorn Revolt, President, Francis Revolt Bout Sec. Co. April Manachester, Francis Revolt Bout Sec. Co. April Manachester, Correct Centre, and busine U Pala Larrical In open their new pharmaceutheal land of Macchinents, Consistent Manachester, and Con-

Changing of the Guard
The Book hild Could Meaned Repaired mount
in Quart of the Guard Howel Lamb, Hour F Guar proposed and interest of Quart of Guard of Book inch and Counted interest of Quart of Guard inchan Palery. If him, hand provided to the Cockream Guard.

sionale fan.

Birthdays Prince Hans Adam II of Liechtenin, 52: The Right Rev Michael Ball, Bishop of Truro, 65; The Right Rev Peter Ball, former Bishop of Gloucester, 65; Mr John Butterfill MP, 56; Sir John Clark, former Chairman and Chief Executive, the Plessey Co. 71: Professor Evelyn Ebworth, Vice-Chancellor, Durham University, 64; Sir Arnold Elton, consultant surgeon, 77; Sir Jack Hibbert, former director, Central Statistical Office, 65; Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, former Chairman, Allied-Lyons, 74; Mr Kevin Keegan, footballer, 46; Mr John MacGregor MP. 60; Miss Maouela Maleeva. tennis player, 30: Miss Lois Maxwell, actress, 70: Countess Mounthatten of Burma, 73; The Hoo Hanning Philipps, former Lord-Lieuteoanl of Dyled, 13; Mr Michael Rudman. theatre director and producer, 58; Dr Sir Albert Sloman, former Vice-Chancellor, Essex University, 76; Sir Nicol Stenhouse, former President. Bengal Chamber of Comnerce and Industry, 86; Sir Jocelyn Sievens, chairman, English Heritage, 65; Mr Alexander Stewart-Moore, former Chairman, Gallaher, 82; Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, chair-

Anniversaries

Births: Christopher Latham Sholes, inventor of an early typewriter, 1819; Quintin Hogg, founder of the Poly-

man, Scottish Hydro-Electric, 62 Mrs

Margaret Wright, Chief Commis-sioner, the Guide Association, 55.

technic, 1845; Jack Benny (Ben-jamin Kubelsky), comedian and ac-tor, 1894. Deaths: Richard II, King. 1400; Captain James Cook, sea captain and explorer, murdered 1779: William Tecumseh Sherman, al, 1891; Sir Pelham Granville (P.G.) Wodehouse, 1975. On this day: the Spanish Fleet was defeated off Cape Si Vinceot by John Jervis and Horato Nelson, 1797; Marconi began the first regular broadcasting transmissions in England, 1922; the St Valentine's Day Massacre took place in Chicago, 1929; following a night and day bombardment by US Air Force and RAF heavy bombers, the German city of Dresden was re duced to a ruin, 1945; the Bank of England was nationalised, 1946; the Ayatollah Khomeini, Iranian leader. pronounced a futwa, or death sentence, on the author Salman Rushdie, alleging blasphemy in his book Satanic Verses, 1989. Today is the Feast Day of St Abraham of Car-rhae. St Adolf of Osnabruck. St Antoninus of Sorrento, St Auxentius, St Conran, Saints Cyril and Methodius, St John Baptist of the Conception. St Maro and St Valentine.

National Gallery: Norman Coady, "Love (ii): love, lust and Correggio

Victoria and Albert Museum: Andrew Spira, "The Medieval Spiri in Later Ages", 2.30pm.

Tate Gallery: Stella Santacatarina
talks about the work of Luciano

Fabro, 1pm.

nnce again he became indis-pensable to the productions 1 delighted his colleagues. Trevor Numb did. He was reptilian as The Duke in The Revenger's Tragedy, David Waller, actor: born Street, Somerset 27 November 1920; riotous as Sir Tunbelly in The Relapse, show-stealing as Dog-berry in Much Ado About Nothmarried Elisabeth Vernon; died London 23 January 1997.

ruary, aged 78. Helped to design the Soviet Vostok rockets, one

Luna, and Kosmos probes.

1961; and engines for the Mars.

Vladislav Bogomolov, rocket of which carried Yuri Gagarin, Mario Henrique Simonsen, engineer, died Moscow 9 Febthe first man into space, in economist, died Rio de Janeiro economist, died Rio de Janeiro 9 February, aged 61. Former Brazilian finance minister.

No repossession against one only of married couple LAW REPORT

Massey, Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Aldous, Lord Justice Schiemann) 12 February 1997

Where joint mortgagors of a property, such as a husband and wife, fell into arrears and the mortgagee sought to repossess the property but was only granted possession against one of the mortgagors, then, pending determination of possession proceedings against the other mortgagor, the court should not enforce the possession order against the first.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the de-fendant, Frank Reginald Massey, against a decision of Judge Hammond, sitting in Stockport County Court on 4 April 1995, upholding a pos-session order granted to the plaintiff, Albany Home Loans

Martyn Birkin (McCormicks, Harro-The judge decided that even if the defendant were to sucgate) for the defendant; Simon Ed-wurds (BMD Geiringer, Potters Bar)

possession claim by the mort-gagee: see Ashley Guarantee plc Lord Justice Schiemann said the defendant and his wife. v Zacaria [1993] 1 WLR 62. He

14 February 1997 Jacqueline Joyce Massey, were

also declined to exercise his powers under section 36 of the Administration of Justice did not hind the wife. Thus the Act 1970 to adjourn the possession proceedings or stay or suspend the execution of the monial home in which his wife judgment ur postpone the delivery of possession. He said the dismissal claim was unlikely to be heard before 1997 and it did not appear that the defendant was "likely to be able within a reasonable period to pay any sums due under the

mortgage". That decision was well within the judge's discretion. However, the defendant pursued a second argument which raised a point of general interest.

The plaintiff had not, as yet, ohtained judgment for possession against the wife. It had brought proceedings, but she, relying on Barclays Bank plc v O'Brien [1994] AC 180, contended that the mortgage should be set aside, as against her, on the ground of undue influence.

sion order made by the judge husband had been ordered by the court to leave the matriwas entitled to stay. The plaintiff had not in fact sought to enforce the order against the defendant prior to the adjudication of his wife's case, and now offered an undertaking not

It was clear that the posses-

But, although no practical problem arose here, his Lordship saw force in the submission that the judge ought not to have made the order for possession. Its result was that a husband was in breach of the court's order and might be held in contempt of court for remaining in a house in which his wife was entitled to remain and invite whom she pleased.

In such a case, where the ejection of one of two mortgagors was of no henefit to the mortgagee, it would not in

general be right to make an order requiring him to leave with-in the period during which the other mortgagor was in pos-session, particularly where the two mortgagors were husband and wife.

It could not be said that the court had no power to make such an order; but it ought so to have disposed of the case that the husband was not required to leave until his wife left. That could have been achieved by an undertaking by the mortgagee, such as was now offered, not to enforce the possession order against the defendant until such an order was made and bocame enforceable against his wife or she left voluntarily, or the court could have ordered an adjournment under its general powers (though not under section 36 of the 1970 Act) with liberty to restore if the wife left the property or a possession order was made against her. In this case, the right course was to accept the undertaking now offered by the plaintiff and

Paul Magrath, Barrister

dismiss the appeal.

THE INDEPENDEN

Koliqi lived om his lat pa with his niece and her fank; a small flat near Shkodara dral. Always ready to welce visitors, despite his frain. would recount his prismer was ever cauer in show her tographs of the course brongis, bointing on f nephews and nieces who we present to share what he the "highlight" of his life.

Mikel Koliųi, priest: bom & dra, Albunus 20 Septembe R ordained priest 1931: Con. 1994: died Shkodra 28 local

Finally called to account for the BSE farce

بكذا من الاعل

t is possible to feel sorry for Dou-glas Hogg. A not especially remarkable Cabinet minister whose only purpose would have been to catch out trivia quiz contestants asked to list agriculture ministers. Memorable for his hats, a Grade II listed surname, for being married to a clever woman, and for having the misfortune to be holding the BSE parcel bomb when the music stopped.

But let us not allow sympathy to get in the way of retribution. Because it is right that the Government should be held to account for its handling of mad cow disease. For 10 years, it has been guilty of incompetence, complacency and cowardice. And the conventions of parliamentary accountability require Mr Hogg to take the rap, even though he has only been in charge for the last 18 months.

Labour is right to put down Mon-day's motion to reduce his salary - the polite way of calling for him to be sacked - and to make BSE an issue on which the Government could fall. It probably won't, but there would be a form of justice done if it did. Our only cavil is that Labour should have supported the Liberal Democrats when they put down exactly the same motion last year. That act of tribal smallmindedness weakens Mr Blair in Monday's vote. It adds to the impression that the Labour leader is making an opportunistic gesture. But just because

they did the wrong thing then does not mean they should be condemned for doing the right thing now.

So what is the case against the Government on BSE?

The possibility that the agents that cause mad cow disease might end up in beefburgers was first raised at the end of 1986. Mr Gummer's unwise publicity street in which he publicly fed hamburger to his daughter Cordelia is one of the political images that will stick in our collective mind, and it contains an essential truth about the Govermnent's attitude. Rather than err on the side of caution, Mr Gummer hlithely asserted that, because no risk had been proved, there was no risk.

It is at this point in the argument that the stock response is usually deployed: Yes, but what would Labour have done? It usually emerges that Her Majesty's Opposition was either fast asleep on the job or ranting off at a tan-gent about something else entirely. Not this case.

Step forward the unexpected figure of David Clark. Yes, him. Very probably there are members of his own family who don't know that he is a member of the Shadow Cabinet, But he is, and he was Mr Gummer's agricultural shadow. And his response to the possibility of BSE entering the human food chain was correct from the start. As a precautionary measure, he said, infected cattle should be

ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2425

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

traced and related animals culled. Feeding them on minced sheep should be stopped. And research should be stepped up. We do not yet know how many people will die from the human variant of BSE, but prompt action then could well have saved some lives.

Why did the Government not act sooner? One of the more pathetic bleats of ministerial self-justification came recently from David Willetts, the allegedly brainy Postmaster General. Modern British government, he wrote, is constrained by the "iron triangle" of the courts, European insti-

tutions and domestic interest groups, He was trying to explain the unfortunate appearance of government passivity in general, but his words stand as a poignant commentary on the BSE crisis in particular.

Now we as a newspaper are very much in favour of farmers. They grow and breed a lot of our food, and jolly good it (mostly) is. And, second only to the victims of the new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, they have borne the cost of the BSE crisis. But we see no reason why they should be singled out for vast amounts of taxpayer subsidy, especially when it is often

threaten both our environment and, potentially, our health. And it is neither in farmers' long-term interest, nor that of the rest of the population, that they should exert so much influence on food

So the most urgent of the funda-mental lessons of the BSE crisis is that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods should be abolished. Food safety should be the responsibility of the Department of Health. and the farming and fishing industries should be treated no differently from any other by the Department of Trade and Industry. So far, Labour has only proposed on "arm's-length" Food Standards Agency, which is not enough.

But Monday's vote is about the Government's record. For once, it is not a pointless Commons charade. There are good reasons of substance why honest, independent-minded MPs should vote against the Government on Monday. Tony Blair may have shied away from them yesterday. because he does not want to add to worries about British beef now that the Government has finally taken all the action it should have taken years ago. Instead, he chose to concentrate on John Major's foolish promise to get the European ban on British beef lifted by last November. That, and the

shaped precisely to encourage the Prime Minister's pelulant policy of kinds of intensive farming methods that non-eo-operation with Brussels. should be condemned. But the real charge is that, bowing to farming interests, this Government needlessly endangered the health of its citizens a long lime ago. This whole sorry tale has been one of accumulated mismanagement from start to linish.

The price of free speech

Calman Rushdie demonstrated his Scourage by making a joke of it "just a cost of living increase" he said
of the additional half a million dollars an Iranian religious foundation has added to the price on his head. In his plight, the author deserves support from the British givernment. The Foreign Office needs to state clearly that the Iranian government holds responsibility for any and all threats uttered from within that state, whether the voices claim to be religious authorities or no. Iran cannot be admitted to open international conversation unless and until the threat is lifted. The Home Office should re-commit itself to Mr Rushdie's protection, Politicians may sometimes forget it, but freedom of speech is one of the most important freedoms they uphold.

mith

materials. He was awain scholar-hip to Imperal lege, Landon, and leann with the London Universit Squadron, going soloaker four hires on Chipmonk! Terst job as a qualified tox tical engineer and plower de Havilland acrodynamic partment at Hanieldin W rose through sales come and project management come managing directoral Hatheld in 1978.

"Coldsouth stakes are their mark on other in The Life regressions Avio Kl has bom more than attordered Thanks to its brisk mich formatice and the cancarin, u bich Codemat paraject member, hadate

Mike Coldsmin vos tall, hundsome and pass that quality natchnecks repean deglighing-at lent sense of humas. It. had the granter, column diplomacy necessarial stall, superiors and pr and fittaticial humanist Airbus supervisin had

regarded him high. He had to reticin the early age of 55 crucks Hated in a tac houd. which leads to but speech and median like this affliction with mis Courage, supported he Betty His nucleonship hunter tentand j. 11. 100

Michael Join Called Meet heart A where the gust 103 married 183 Hamen's Charles and dist Herth missing 24 June

Marin Itanrique 4 Februar, and his Brankan tuane me

ried couple

der requiring him loke in the period luting other medicines with Men up digritte de men. Remidendly and wile at counts and re-walls to have sheprochilly in the law to The product was being to kay mul house could have been all understante by the first ethnic the facilities Mill all stake While Came Calaban ka and

The cease could be

Ma from Street the f

filectly he restore the

the mount of

In the case the

Montes the diffe il

PRUI MARTINE.

Keighley, West Yorkshire Sir. Following the ill-advised has focused exclusively on Scotland's future.

and a leap in the dark

Sir: I hope Andrew Marr was not suggesting ("England, stop whingeing about a Scottish parliament", 12 February) that Scotland does not benefit in terms of fiscal transfers from her membership of the UK, for she most emphatically and quite properly does. Like many radical devolutionaries, he tries to minimise the scale of this advantage and parrots the standard. SNP myth that it is actually wealthy people in the Home Counties who enjoy the greatest "subsidies" from the state. He even disinters one of the SNP greatest hits from the 1970s: "It's Scotland's Oil".

moreover, on the rather and experiment, not less". And so used as constitutional guinea pigs simply because we are bored with

people are "whingeing", but that the business of arranging a new constitutional settlement for Scotland is so transparently a vexed and uncertain affair. With Scottish vital interests at stake, honest analysis will serve us all better than urging Scotland to take a great leap forward into the dark. JAMES MURPHY London NW5

Sir: In your report "Tories threaten 10 make the Scots pay up" (11 February) you refer to Conservative propaganda that there is more "identifiable" government spending per head in Scotland than in England, with the implication that this is some sort of 'henefit" bestowed on the Scots by virtue of the Union.

Waldegrave, admitted in a taking oil revenues into account, Treasury since 1979. This the equivalent of £5,400 for every person in Scotland. JOE TAYLOR Brighton, East Sussex

Sir: By all means reduce the numbers of Scottish MPs at Westminster. Scotland is, after all, over-represented. But that will not solve the West Lothian problem, for which the only solution would be complete exclusion while any English, Welsh or Irish business was on the agenda. Something that could be arranged quite simply if Scottish MPs were required to sit in both regional and UK parliament.

But it is invidious to give the five million inhabitants of Scotland a parliament of their own when a greater number of Londoners do not have and forum to call their own. Regional parliaments for the rest of the UK is an equitable solution and, if MPs are elected to sit in both parliaments, one that al pewers the party of the country o will scriously limit over-inclulgence in non-productive waffle. ROGER CHAPMAN

comments of Stephen Dorrell, the debate on the merits of devolution

On the same day that the Health Secretary's remarks were causing an

Scots, English

He wants a Scottish parliament, Islingtonian grounds that "what we need in Britain ... is more diversity the people of Scotland are to to be

The point is not that English.

A more accurate picture will be obtained if revenue raising is also. considered. Last month the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, William parliamentary written answer that, Scotland has paid a massive £27bn absolute surplus into the London

> Historic archives under hammer

uproar, nearly 100 people prominent in Weish life (from business figures, academics, and religious figures through to celebrities from the

worlds of sport, music and the stage)

launched a new came aign. Our aim is to achieve a resounding "yes" vote in the referendum which we, as well

as the Scots, have been promised

political campaign in advance of the election because we feel that

following a change of government.

We have launched a non-party

there is a need to take the focus on

devolution away from politicians

and aim it at ordinary people, the vast majority of whom are members of no political party. The wrangling

of recent days proves such an

approach is sorely needed.

Yes for Wales campaign

DARANHILL

Sir: Your report on the sale of Marconi archive material (10 February), coming so soon after the sale of Brunel material last November, raises once again the urgent need to protect our national heritage archives from loss by dispersal

It is clear that there is a continuing haemorrhage of historically valuable documents through random sale to the highest hidder, and that there is a need for an agency to control such eneration of the national beritage. Such an agency, preferably part of a government department, would aim at: identifying the owners of archival material with high heritage value;

advising them about appropriate national repositories to which it might be sold, if not actually donated; arranging for independer valuation of such collections; and facilitating the flow of heritage funds for the acquisition of archives by approved institutions.

an agency could rapidly improve the condition of our herita archives, and establish public access to them for posterity. R ANGUS BUCHANAN Emeritus Professor of the History of Technology School of Social Sciences University of Bath

By firm but judicious action such

Proud of our rave in the nave

Sir: There is a lot of truth in Andrew Brown's article "Runcie and the long melancholy roar" (10 February) and a lot of fear in the criticisms of modern worshin. I am proud that I chaired the

committee that introduced "Rave in the Nave" at Ely Cathedral at the beginning of this decade, but it is no threat to my four roral churches and their congregations. It is a successful annual event which draws young people (and some older ones) and aims to support their daily and

weekly Christian worship. However, few local churches can put on a professional and exciting youth service. In the main the staple diet of young and old will continue to be more or less traditional worship.

The cause for the sudden drop in attendance this year in the Anglican Church is something for which young people can reject all blame. Those under 23 have not voted for this government. Its deregulation and desecration of

Sunday, and the policies that have undermined the family, mean that many of my church members no longer attend weekly.
Those in church have often had to make a massive effort to get there. If they are rewarded with an annual dose of worship which is relevant, different, exciting and

challenging, they deserve it. Rev STEPHEN LEEKE

event which is valid.

Warboys, Cambridgeshire Sir. One is saddened by the charges of intellectual dishonesty levelled at a fellow Christian by the Rev Guy A Davies ("Misguided liberal gloss on the Bible", Letters, 12 February). Mr Davies refers to the substitutionary death of Christ as if it is the only interpretation of this

Many Christians who do not share Mr Davies' more dogmatic views nevertheless have had their lives enhanced, given purpose, even transformed by accepting initially the hypothesis that God (however he/she is described) uniquely expressed "himself" in Jesus and took the initiative in making possible harmony between God and humankind, harmony within ourselves and harmony berween people. Mr Davies, please do not write us off as dishonest.

DAVID EAGLE Epsom, Surrey

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk).

E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Sir: Guy Davies suggests that, if Kenneth Wilson no longer believes the Bible is true, he should leave the priesthood and renounce Christianity, and he adds that perhaps the Rationalist Press Association would give him a job".

I am afraid we have no vacancies at the moment, but the idea isn't as silly as it may seem. We have always had friendly relations with progressive elements of various denominations, several members throughout the century of our existence have been clergymen, one of our leading figures during the first half of the century was the former Roman Catholic priest, Joseph McCabe, and one of our present directors is a former

Anglican priest.

A main strand of the freethought movement has always been rational criticism of the Bible and indeed of all religious scriptures and doctrines, and we welcome the very significant work done in this area by protagonists of "Liberal Christianity", which we at least would never stoop to describing as "intellectually dishonest". NICOLAS WALTER Rationalist Press Association London NI

Tory message the Tories have come up with a

meaningful slogan: "Mayday! COLIN M CAMPBELL

Sir: At last (report, 12 February)

Nede, Abbev, Hampshire

fraternity. ERNIE SEARS

Sir: Your report "Lobbyist offers

London W6

No sale

his memoirs for sale" (13 February) is wholly inaccurate insofar as your references to HarperCollins are concerned. HarperCollins decided not to publish Jan Greer's book because we could not see any commercial justification for doing so. In short, we did not think it would make money. EDDIE BELL Executive Chairman and Publisher HarperCollins Publishers

Sudden approach

of lawless cyclists

Sir. Helen Newton (letter, t0

may well give what he calls a

"salutation" to pedestrians

would advise walkers of his

approach, hopefully at a

exercising their right to walk. It would be much better if he

possessed, as is required by law, a

reasonable speed. No "salutation"

or similar gesture will appease the

overtaken by a cyclist who ignores

the laws of the land, whether it be

"Polite behaviour" has long

irritation we pedestrians suffer

upon being suddenly quietly

on bridle path or pavement.

vanished among the cycling

bicycle bell, a polite tinkle on which

distance horse-rider.

February) is "puzzled" by bridle path cyclists who encounter the

kind of rudeness from walkers that

she never seems to receive as a lnng

K J McLean (tener, 3 February),

Depressed? Blame media overload

Sir: In his examination of current high levels of depression and dissatisfaction ("The blue Nincties", 11 February), Oliver James overlooks the single most glaring social difference between the 1950s and today.

The huge media explosion over the past forty years means that all of us, from infancy onwards, receive a considerable input about the world and other human beings from data already processed by other minds.

Compared with even recent history, when news, anecdute, opinion, advice and wisdom were passed from person to person, face to face, by word of mouth (with books as direct verbal communication from absent individuals), we now live in a virtually real fanlasy world - that of the electronic media, advertising, film, and the tabloid press.

Il is hardly surprising that against this daily and constant bombardment of images and sounds we should somehow feel that our personal and human status has been reduced.

It is conceivable that on evolutionary principles we may adapt to this comparatively recem change in nur environment (after several thousand years of nonmedia development), but on a conservative estimate it will take about ten thousand years for a fully fledged, and happy, Media Man to evolve. IAN FLINTOFF London SW6

Sir: Oliver James is wrong when he says that "the SSRI most widely prescribed today is called Lustral". That honour goes in Prozac, which is also the world's most widely prescribed antidepressant. DEREK G ANTHONY Manager of Curporate Affairs Lilly Industries Ltd Bosingstoke.

Cryonics are a long-odds bet

Sir: David E Page ("Only the gullible pay to be frozen". Letters, 12 February) misses the point about cryonics. People who opt to be frozen after death are taking a gamble. A gamble that the technological advances needed to revive them will eventually be made, that the company preserving them will survive. That those who like to impose their ethical standards on others will allow their revival, and, indeed, that civilisation itself will not collapse.

The odds against ever being revived must be astronomical, but so what? The alternative is to be 100 per cent certain of spending PAUL BRATTON London W5

Post haste

Sir: My experience has, unfortunately, been exactly the opposite of your currespondents' ("Greetings cards always delayed", Letters, 12 February), 1 posted a Valentine's card to my fiancee in Vancouver last Saturday and was iold at the Post Office counter that it might ger there by Friday. However, she sent me an e-mail on Tuesday, saying she had already received it. TIM SHORT Reading.

Fisk in Ireland: Part 3

The border is a state of mind

In his third and final report on Northern Ireland, The Independent's award-winning war reporter Robert Fisk goes in search of the dividing line that symbolises the island's lingering torment

Glenfada Flats, I found two bullet holes from Bloody Sunday, two gashes in the cheap stucco and cement to remind the Catholics of the Bogside of the power of a self-loading rifle fired exactly 25 years ago by a member of the 1st Battalion the Parachute

There's another hole round the corner in Chamberlain Street," a young man told me. 'Would you like to see it?" And he ran through a litany without lovitation. The Paras, the 13 unarmed dead Catholic civil rights demonstrators - the 14th who died of wounds later - the Widgery Tribunal, the lies, the humiliation. I told him I'd seeo Middle East and the Balkans these past 22 years, live rounds that had turned the walls of jevo and Kabul and Vukovar

n the wall of a ground-floor apartment in one more bullet hole would make a lot of difference. "But do people know about Bloody Sunday in Beirut?" the man asked. No. I said. Not a soul there knew - or cared - what happened here. Did the young man know

what happeoed in Beirut in November, 1993, I asked? He shrugged his shoulders. Well, I explained, a large group of Shiite Muslim demonstrators supporters of the Hizbollah, but unarmed - had staged a protest march against the terms of the PLO-Israeli peace agreement. The march was illegal. The Lebanese army was ordered to stop the marchers. An "élite" military unit opened fire on the Beirut demonstrators. Thirteen enough built holes in the of them - including women -

> The Londonderry man was silent for a long time. The parallels were astonishing, but the two bloodbaths were exclusive



In the shadow of the past: a Bogside mural depicting Bishop Daly and one of the Bloody Sunday victims Priotograph: Pace-

6 The IRA

hijacked

because no

to their countries. So all the man said was: "Jesus Christl" It is a came much invoked on the Loodooderry memorials. The most dramatic of these is a simple granite cross erected to the memory of the 13 -Duddy, Doherty, McGuigan, Gilmore, McElhicoey, McDaid, Nash, Young, Kelly, Wray, Donaghy and two McKinneys - "murdered by British paratroopers on Bloody Suoday 30 January 1972". oo the local gun-Beside it, someone bas scribbled a note: "All we need is the

truth to help heal the wounds." The truth. That is all the people of Oana were demanding last April after Israeli shells

And I rather think the parallels here may be closer. The Israelis said they were shooting back at Hizbollah, just as the British paratroopers claimed they were shooting back at the IRA. There was an international out- there was a pilotless recoocry against the massacre but the naissance aircraft over Qana -Israelis insisted the killings Israel gave the Hizbollah its

were not deliberate, blaming them men, even on the dead themselves for tolerating the Hizbollah in their midst. Just as the Britisb ignored one else did 🤊 the international outrage after Bloody Sunday,

insisting that the

IRA were to blame, that some of the dead had been armed. The UN's official inquiry into the Qana massacre implied that it was deliberate. Lord Widgery was not so brave. Of 500 eyewitness testimonies given to him, he bothered to read only 15. Was he merely lazy? Or was he a weak, morally enfeebled man, more fearful of condemning his country's armed forces than he was of concealing the truth?

Ireland today when even the Protestant Newsletter - the oldest daily paper in the kingdom - demands an official apology to the families of the victims. By lying about what they could see the Israelis at first denied

biggest propaganda victory in 14 years. By refusing to admit the truth - that the British Army had **Bloody Sunday** committed an the IRA its

> ganda victory in 25 years. And the families were doubly assaulted. After falsely accusing the dead of carrying firearms, the British then abused the relatives by claiming that they had allowed the IRA to hijack their grief. As a Catholic priest put it to me in the Bogside, "The IRA hijacked Bloody Sunday because no one else did - if only the British had told the truth at the start ..."

And still Bloody Sunday

pill for his fearful headaches. laments every memory of past violence. As his "peace process" - initiated with great courage after long talks with Gerry Adams - slowly disinte-grates, he fears each ocw reminder of the past, the tensions raised by the Bloody Sunday anniversary, even the appearance at this critical moment of Neil Jordan's film

Michael Collins. But his mind races brilliantly on, ever broader as the chances of peace narrow. "The model of the European Union should be the model for our healing process," he says. "Who would have thought, standing on the frontier of Germany in 1945 with 35 million dead across Europe, that there would be a united Europe 50 years later? How did we do it? It's about seeing difference - race, religion, ethnicity - not as a threat but as an accident of birth."

I feel uneasy, listening to Hume. I admire him - he is the first to remind me that he was regolarly assaulted and harassed by the IRA and its supporters - but I am troubled hy clichés, like "healing process", and I fear that if the European Union is the model

tion, theo the province is taking a very long time learning this lesson. On Bloody Sunday, Wednesday night had not even been born. For the truth is that the EU is a piece of state-ofthe-art politics in whose far north-western corner there exists a 16th-century war.

Twenty-five years ago, Bishop Edward Daly's picture was in every newspaper, hold-ing out a bloody handkerchief walked in front of a crowd carrying a dying man. Retired now, his memory failing each eventide after a frightening stroke three years ago, he is still

The ceasefire was a tremendous opportunity which was not taken," he says wearily. "I think the British delayed and dallied, made an issue of decommissioning [of arms]. They don't seem able to stomach the idea of Sinn Fein being there at the table. Until they can stomach this, I don't think the peace process is going any-where ... I don't think anybody in Sinn Fein is looking forward to a United Ireland tomorrow

morning."
Not that Bishop 6 The peace Daly is any friend of the IRA. He process isn't going has been cursed for his condemnaanywhere 9 tion of human **Bishop Daly** refusing to allow

his church. "There was the case of Patsy Gillespie. who was tied into his van and soldiers and the bomb went off and killed six of them. At that funeral, I really spoke my mind about the IRA." And here I remembered searching the pre-vious day in Belfast for an IRA. battalion commander whom I knew back in 1974 - "Bald Eagle", he was called then. I was fold be was old now and was only seen at funerals and had already suffered his first heart attack. Did IRA men find their consciences in old age, I asked Bishop Daly, when they could see death coming for

"No Robert, you don't understand. The time the reality comes crashing in on them is when their first child is born. They have participated in the creation of a life and three mooths later young men come to me with problems because they have killed someone. This hits them while they are still young and not at such a remove from the act of killing. Some of them have sat here and wept."

Bishop Daly has given the last rites to British soldiers, buried Catholic RUC men, but understands the ignorance of the world. "A lot of people in the North are under an illusion - they think the whole world is waiting to see what will happen to them." And I remembered the man outside Glenfada Flats.

The Catholics may take comfort in demography. As the priest said to me in the Bogside. the quality of houses has improved for Catholics and so emigration will fall. "In the old Unionist days, the Protestants

got it absolutely right - they didn't provide housing for the Catholics. But even without work, a man will stay here if he has a decent home. Our figures show that around 55 to 66 per cent of the children in school in Northern Ireland at the moment are from Catholic-Nationalist families. In 1972, there were 39,000 Catholics in Londonderry. Now there are 68,000. But the X factor is the

When I asked the priest bow long it might therefore be before the minority became the majority, he said, matter-offactly: "Twenty-five years?" Another quarter of a century and that chusive border would disappear. But was this what it was all about? I recalled that the writer Ulick O'Connor had once told me of how an RUC Behan when he found him on his hands and knees on the road south of Newry. "What are you doing?" the policeman had asked the playwright. "Ilying to find the feckin' border," Behan had replied. And so I decided

new housing. It's a huge revolution that has taken place

> to go and look at this mysterious for it lay only five

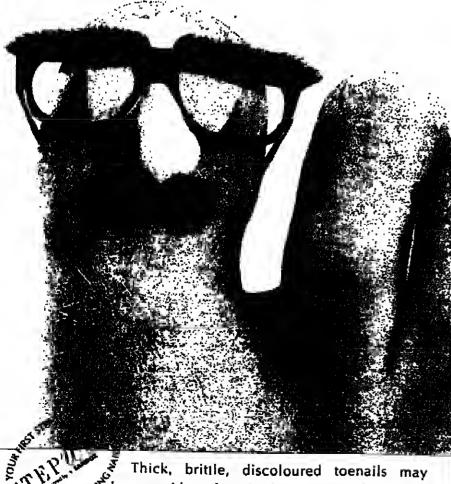
memorial. "In Memory of Patsy Husband and Father ... Lord that he may be an instrument of Your Peace. Presented by the

Just beyond, so my map sug-gested, was the border. But 1 couldn't find it. I did see an Irish Garda officer on the County Dooegal side of the frontier. Where exactly was the border. I asked him? There was a bold laugh. "I really doo't know for certain because I've oever walked further than this. he replied. "They say it's the stream over there and I've been told it runs behind that house." I knocked on the door of the cottage. It was deserted, the wind blowing softly through the trees beside it.

I knelt down on the road surface, Behan-like, and could faintly detect a very slight change in the tarmacadam, perhaps a millimetre difference in the height of the kerbstones. Was this the border?

Behind me, in what must still have been Northern Ireland, was a caravan beside the road. Three children, their mother and father, squashed themselves to the window. They had come from Armagh, the man said. So where, I asked them. was the border? "They say it's along that ditch to the right of the road," the man said to me, rubbing his eyes in the cold air coming through his caravan window. But if you want to know where the real border is. it's here." And he tapped his right forefinger on his head, so loudly that I could hear it banging against his skull.

There's no disguising problem toenails



be caused by a fungal infection. For a tree leatlet water and advice on how they can be cured write to FREEPOST STEPWISE, Depl. IND 140297, PO BOX 5314, London W6 0GQ, or call FREEPHONE 0800 200 210.

FREEPHONE 0800 200 210

Brief encounters and murderous mobiles

s nohndy, Heaven be praised, has offered inc money to print their St Valentine's Day greetings in this column. shall be forced to talk about something else instead, and I

think it is going to be about talking to people on trains. Do you talk to people on trains? I do. It's one of the chief pleasures of travelling by train. When I say talking oo trains, I don't mean talking

by telephone to people who

are not oo the train. People who ring other people from the train should be barely tolerated, as instead of going into the lavatory and conducting their silly little conversations in private they always sit proudly where they are and raise their voice louder than is anywhere oear necessary, as if to say, "Look at me - I've got a mobile

phone - you haven't!" At home we don't shout into a phone, indeed we hardly raise our voice above a whisper, but we can still be perfectly well heard by the people at the other end. So why is it that people oo trains using phones feel they have to raise their voices?

I was on a train home from Paddington the other day, and a couple of seats behind me was an infuriating woman who launched into long, loud conversations on her phone about business life, the next day's meetings office gossip, and so on, and when she was tired of talking to one person she rang another and had exactly the same conversation all over again. You could feel the whole carriage silently seething as they tried to ignore her, until finally I couldn't bear it any longer and I got up and turned round and said to her very

forcibly and audibly: "If you have to talk so loudly, could you PLEASE have more interesting conversations?

Though I say it myself, I thought that was quite a snappy line. It did not. however, have the desired squashing effect on her. She iooked murderous daggers back at me and said: "If you don't like it, you can always move somewhere else," At this point I should have

said, "I'm afraid there areo't

enough empty seats io the

Miles Kington

train for all of us to move to," hut I didn't think of this till later, and just sat down furning. Luckily she scored an own goal now, because she turned back to ber phoce and said to her unseen friend, "Sorry about that, but there's a bloke on the train who says I'm talking too loud." At which a chorus of passengers' voices arose around me, saying: "He's not the only one," and although sbe outwardly paid oo heed to this, her voice suddenly went very soft and quiet and we all smiled at each other

Satisfying at the time, I suppose, but train conversations shouldn't be a matter of winning and losing. They should be gentle things,

rising and falling like hreathing. The next time I got on the train at Bath to go to Paddington I sat opposite an old bloke who didn't look like much until he produced a small flask and said: "Don't think I can get this tea down unless it's got some whisky in it," and poured a slug of Scotch in his tea. "Want

some?" he said. "Don't think I could face Scotch before Ilam," I said

"I beg to differ," he said, and we were off on a long circumambulatory conversation which lasted from Bath to Didcot and which ranged over prisons (he had been a policeman before retiring), racial prejudice (he was Welsh). strangely boring seaside towns (he lived in Westonsuper-Mare) and so on. I was actually meant to be working on the train but this was. more fun, and by the time we got to Reading we were lifeloug buddles. Then, at

and sat with us. My friend offered him some Scotch. He refused. He got out a mobile phone. He hunched up his shoulders to signify isolation and made as if to dial. "Bloody hell," said Taffy

(which he had told me was his name). "He's got a Yuppie phone. Or don't we use that word any more?" ."What word?" I said.

"Yuppie," said Taffy. "Is the word Yuppie' too Eighties? Is the word dead now? And if there are still such people as Yuppies, what is the Nineties word for it? I appeal to our friend with the Yuppie phone. What do you

Our friend with the Yuppie phone, who had been listening to this with some amusement, put down the phone and joined in our conversation. By the time we got to Paddington we were all friends for life. I submit with respect that none of this would have happened oo a plane or in a taxi, only

on a train. Well, that's it. I rest my case, whatever it was, and a happy St Valentine's Day to

Married of the formal and the

Carrier of the 1 K toward

the agreement analysis age were well

State of the second of resp. 10

But de samme the storing of recon

Statement to en hatel to the

fergie gure world

No less than si the cross it term are with Labour : ritte sights . A Labour's rathe angines and called on the feed of a discontinuous flower of the same and address of the feed of the

Mc been well out

ediplica in the

is the aminuted agric

part about the state of wife. dentina, and had week. shall received special to

Calend Parents in Colonia of the Calend Parents of Transport Beingetumen, trul einti-Salt in or list tended may condition of the least to the white the melalic manner specific deep the past it months of the the all be should under the

by Mr Honey dail they distrib. About designed other, o'dually ble death The party of the state of the s Michigan Die der to Driffe critical training the state of the control of the critical training to the state of the critical critica topic of the training of the party of the pa

Self or district the separate one les bell centile et les then land that about the Becke pient for Jane str telitri in the Heat arises. that the have been Formal and the state of the season of the season of the state of the season of the sea

with disposing a filler A la bill pages ches be the control of the first best best being the control of the con Application of party with the the did the ill-term whe hear to aller the the

Fergie – the ideal figure for the new world economy

ow many people in this country, facing bankruptcy, could go out and earn between £4m and £5m m just a few months to help pay off their debts?

Well, there is one and her name is Sarah Ferguson. We have become so accustomed to joking about the Duchess of York or rushing to judgement about her antics that we miss something much more impor-tant. This is the astonishing scale of her achievement, and more particularly what it says about the changing nature of

the global economy.

She demonstrates five important changing features of the world economy: the growth in demand for celebrities and the complex nature of that form of human capital; the need for global branding; the fact that increasingly men and women will compete on a level eco-nomic playing field; the need for entrepreneurship; and the importance of the English

language.
The £4-5m is an estimate but will be not too far out and is quite stunning: more than £2m from an autobiography; £1m from Weight Watchers; £500,000 from advertising cranberry juice in the US; interviews, advances on children's books and Hello! deals, another £600,000; £100,000 from an Austrian construction mogul; plus various odds and ends.

mostly product promotions. The starting point here is the trend towards celebritisation of the world economy. They are everywhere. Turn on the TV and there will be some

hostess saying some (actually very boring) car is wonderful. By why? What is the need for these people to be paid to say these words? The answer is that in a world of infinite information the obvious way for a company to get across a commercial message is to employ a well-known human being to say it. Sometimes the ad people think of something new and clever; but it is a sight easier to hire a celeb. · Fergie is a brilliant celeb for two reasons: royalty and frailty. She is—or at least has been — a royal and the UK royal family is currently at the top of the global celeb food chain. But that alone would not be enough; it would not sell much cranberry juice in the US to have, say, Prince Edward, doing the ad. Human frailty is attractive; look at the way Hugh Grant's fees shot up after his indiscretion on made this money by working in a multinational Sunset Boulevard, or how Bill Clinton's trouser-zip problem may even have enhanced

traditional image of the UK royals on the other, happens to make her very valuable. And valuable not so much in the UK, which is not in world terms a very important market; she is that rare thing, a recognisable

his appeal among women. The counterpoint

between Sarah Ferguson's human failings and

her openness on the one hand, and the stuffy



Hamish McRae

She's the perfect late **Nineties** brand: she's a woman, a celebrity and she speaks **English**

national brand, think how much harder it is to build an interna-tional one. The only British brand that is really making much headway globally at the moment is Virgin, and look at the things Richard Branson has to do to get publicity. Achieving global brand recognition is particularly impor-tant in things like films and books. Anyone who has pub-lished a book in global markets will know that total world sales can be 10 times UK sales. Fer-

gie's autobiography (her biggest single deal) should sell well in all markets simply because, like Branson, she is a global brand. She is also a woman. In most forms of economic activity men still get paid more than women doing the same job. But there are signs that at the top of the are signs that at the top of the skill range – top sportspeople, celeb authors, pop stars – the differences are becoming nar-rower. If the quality that deter-mines success is office politics, men will probably win. If it is skilled acceptate while it. ability to generate publicity, the playing field is more even, as the

playing field is more even, as the Space Guis are now proving in America. If they do hit Number One in the charts with Wannabe, which now looks likely, they will have done something that neither Blur nor Oasis have yet managed. I cannot prove it, but I suspect that it would have been impossible, had the posibeen impossible, had the positions been reversed, for the Duke of York to have earned money as fast as his former wife. His gender would have been against him. Next, there is the English lan-

guage. Fergie is an Anglo-Amerin product. She is an Anglo but behaves like an American. sportsperson endorsing a pizza; a chat-show That not only gains access to the much bigger market, but also is a springboard for exports to the rest of the world. The world buys Amer-

ican popular culture (and to a much lesser extent, British culture) in a way that America and Britain do not buy, say, French, German or Japanese culture. Some of us may have seen the odd French or Italian film in the last year or maybe read the odd non-English book in translation. But with the occasional exception the sales are truy. English-language culture is a one-way street.

Half Fergie been Japanese or Norwegian, she would not have been able to export her skills so readily. The English-language base is absolutely crucial to her success. Finally, Fergie is a fascinating example of the

importance of entrepreneurship. She basn't or qualifying as a lawyer. Nobody has employed her. It is pure entrepreneurship: seeing an opportunity to sell a service and developing the service to fit the market. Go back 20 years and it would have been unthinkable. Nobody told her to do it. We seem again to have become a nation of go-getters. So the whirlwind £5m, or whatever it turns out to be, tells us something remarkable about Fergie, but it also says something remarkable about the way money global celebrity. If it is hard to build up a is increasingly earned in the world.

Nanny may not know best, but she's cheap

by Suzanne Moore

special qualifica-tions to become a parent yet follow-ing the death of a nine-month-old American baby at the hands of British au pair Louise Woodward, everyone is esking who is properly qualified to care for children.

This story is a tragedy for all concerned. An inexperienced 18-year-old loses her patience with a crying baby in her care and shakes him. He dies as a result of a "intracrapial haemorrhage" and she now faces a murder charge. Her father flies out to Boston and fails to raise the \$100,000 bail money, while her traumatised mother sits in shock, telling reporters "I can't imagine how his parents must feel. I have already lost my daughter - but I have at least go

the hope of getting her back."
How could this have happened? Everyone who has left a child in the care of a childminder, an pair, or baby-sitter - that is, most of us - will sleep less easily. Everyone is relating stories of dodgy namnies and irresponsible au pairs, of young women like Louise Woodward who we can see in retrospect were ill-equipped to care for infants. Checklists have been provided for prospective employees so that we might ask the right questions, get the right references, make sure they have the right qualifica-tions before we leave them in sole charge of our off spring. An pairs are often employed

on the basis of a letter alone. No meeting takes place until they turn up with their rucksack. I once asked a prospective au pair if she liked children. She replied "No". When I asked her if there was anything that she wanted to ask me, she said: "Can you get me a boyfriend?"
All this advice however, may

help relieve our anxiety but it won't change the basic reality that we want those who look after our children to be highly skilled, yet we don't want to pay them much money to do it. Our children may be precious but we leave them in the care of those who get paid far less than any proposed minimum wage. This is a catch-22: if child care became more expensive, many women could simply not afford to work in the first place. It is working women, who as we know are already under attack from all sides, whose guilt and fear will be played upon by the Louise Woodward story.

Yet the couple who employed this girl were high earners. Sunil Eappen is an anaesthesiologist, his wife Deborah an ophthal-



It takes a case like the New York au pair tragedy to remind us of the value of good child care. But are we prepared to pay for it?

mologist. For all their "ologies", like many in their situation they must have decided to spend only a small proportion of their income on child care. This is not unusual but it reflects our contradictory expectations about what it takes and what it costs to look after small children.

The assumption is that young women will be able to look after babies merely on the grounds of their gender. Their experience may be limited to baby-sitting. which often involves sitting in a house after the children have already gone to bed. We assume that girls will have had

babies when clearly most have whole deeply ambivalent about not. This may have been the what caring for children is case in the days of the extended about. On the one hand it is family but not any more. The first baby I ever held was

my own. We had been prepared for this at antenatal classes by bathing dolls but this was about as much use as our preparation for childbirth, which involved a midwife pushing a tennis ball through a pretend uterus that was knitted out of navy blue wool. "Sorry," she said at the time, "I ran out of pink".

The idea that one can be fully prepared for parenthood may

experience of looking after be a myth but we are on the entirely natural: anyone (escept, it is common sense, it not given much status. Girls who do not achieve much academically are siphoned off as nursery nurses. On the other hand, all social classes are bombarded with instructions on how to improve their parenting skills.

Books are being published at a furious rate on how to produce "emotionally intelligent children", on how to make

them cleverer, more creative, more socially accomplished. Parenting is recognised as an arduous and complex task. One sees hordes of exhausted parents trying to cram all their par-enting skills into half an bour at the end of a long day.

Things had obviously gone wrong in the family that Woodward was working for. The child who died also had a broken arm that had been left untreated. None of the three adults caring for him appears to have noticed. Hayward's friends and family have rallied to her support with tales of her kindness. As sad as this case is, we should be grateful that there are not more like it. Most childminders and au pairs do a very good job for not much money and little thanks. The rise of the domestic class means that many young women are involved in what sometimes amounts to

Child care, like so much else. has become almost entirely pri-vatised. Each mother struggles to find someone suitable to look after her children that she can afford to pay, then worries that they are not good enough, and is never sure what goes on when she is not there. In nurseries at least there are other adults around. If one worker becomes frustrated there are others to take a turn, Good day-care is good for children, but even sa we regard it with suspicion.

A Scandinavian friend of mine, who did her child-care training in Denmark, was encouraged to believe that she was preparing for one of the most important professions helping to bring up the next generation. In Britain she was stunned to find that working with children was considered a menial job with bad pay. The care of small children is still a predominantly female profes-sion, underwritten by the idea that because women are looking after children it's not actually a real job at all.

It takes something going wrong to remind us how valuable a job it is. And we have to decide whether we want to pay the price. The prioritising of education is meaningless withit seems, men) can do it, and, as out decent and subsidised nursery provision and that provision must start way before the age of four. Many women will contimue to manage as they do now by swapping child care with friends and family. This costs nothing and is often preferable to a deregulated market which dictates that child care can be done on the cheap. We can't be surprised that sometimes you get what you pay for.

Who deserves censure for BSE?

No less than six agricultural ministers did too little, too late, says Nicholas Schoon

s the cross hairs in Labour's rifle sights settle on the fedora'd head of Douglas Hogg, it is time once more to attempt a ready reckoning. What has the BSE crisis cost us? How could it have been avoided?

It was the embattled agri-culture minister himself who boasted about the awesome scale of those costs last week, in a coolly received speech to the annual general meeting of the National Parmers Union. The Government had com-

mitted £3.3bn on BSE-related expenditure, "equivalent to 2p on income tax", he said. The figure includes money spent over the past 11 months of full-blown crisis, and money which will be spent over the next three years.

But Mr Hogg did not mention several other, equally charged figures - the 15 deaths so far put down to new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), the cruel and lethal brain affliction that the Government's scientific advisers ascribe to eating BSE-contam-

No one has kept count of how many farms and abattoirs have been bankrupted. There is no precise figure for farm suicides related to the BSE crisis. although coroners have been hearing that the uncertainty and hardship engendered drove several already struggling cattle

farmers to kill themselves. And there are other, much vaguer but perhaps even larger, costs. Historians may one day mark the summer of 1996, with the beef crisis and the ill-tempered Florence summit, as the time when Britain's relations meat have clearly survived the

with the EU soured decisively. And what of the cattle themselves? Old dairy cows used to be slaughtered to make low-grade beef products, like burgers and pies. Now more than one million of them have been turned into great piles of dust under the "Over Thirty Month Scheme". Rendered-down meat and bone meal, and great vats of molten fat or tallow are stored in warehouses around the country.

These materials can't be dumped in landfill sites because they contain tiny quantities of prion protein, the mysterious, extraordinarily robust molecule that has caused the epidemic. The Government is still trying to work out how to burn

Some 500,000 baby male calves, just a few days old, have also been slaughtered because the European Union ban on British beef exports wiped out the market for them. They used to be exported to the Continent, to be confined in veal crates for a short life before slaughter, a practice that led to mass protests at places like Brightlingsea. Now they are slaughtered even younger and farmers are compensated for

each purposeless death. At the moment, the best guess must be that we are at the beginning of the end of the crisis. Hopefully, the number of new variant CID cases will run into a few dozen a year at most, rather than hundreds or thousands. But this is still only a hope, not a likelihood, and no scientist who knows what she or he is talking about would dream of making a precise estimate. British farming and British



An infected cow is taken away for incineration Brian Harris

European ban and the damage to public confidence in pretty good shape, thanks to huge dollops of taxpayer subsidy. As Mr Hogg told farmers last week, prices in livestock markets have largely recovered and household consumption of the best beef cuts is now almost back at its pre-crisis levels.

With the Government belatedly implementing the selective cull of cattle, the only unfulfilled promise from the Florence EU summit, the conditions are theoretically in place for the rest of Europe to lift the

export ban. But this won't hanpen for months if not years, because continental politicians know their voters would never stand for it.

But at least Britain is belat-

edly completing its part of the Florence bargain. This cull will kill a further 100,000 or so cattie, in addition to the 1.2 million slaughtered under the Over Thirty Month Scheme. Ministry of Agriculture vets are now scouring Britain's farms, selecting older surviving cattle that once belonged to herds where other animals

These are, essentially, confidence-building moves. They will kill a few older cattle that would have come down with BSE but will do very little, if anything, to protect human health because there is already a ban on meat from cattle over 30 months old going into the human food chain.

With the clarity of hindsight, we can all see that again and again government did tou little, too late over the last 10 years -and six agriculture ministers since Ministry scientists first diagnosed the new disease in cattle. It gave too much weight to the immediate worries of farmers and the food industry; and it downplayed fears, so as they had publicised their worries, some people who have since contracted new variant CJD from eating infected meat might have avoided doing so and be alive today.

Perhaps its biggest failure, in a time of deregulation and declining state intervention, was not to enforce the successive regulations it decreed to stop BSE-contaminated products being eaten by humans and cattle. This is the view of Professor John Pattison. Dean of University College, London Medical School and chairman of the Government's leading advisory committee on BSE. "The principles of what we did have been correct. The enforcement

left something to be desired."
But even if everything that the scientists advising the Government had recommended had heen implemented ruthlessly, there might well have been some new variant CID

be that the fatal doses of prion protein were taken in by humans nearly 10 years ago. during the earliest period of the BSE epidemic in cattle.

Of course it could have been avoided if the original sin of feeding ground-up cattle and sheep remains to cattle had never been allowed; these days it is banned for cows and all other animals. But the practice dates back decades and was never questioned by a public who, by and large, did not want to know the grisly details of how they got their mass-produced food, it was a practice which bappened in several other countries as well as Britain. The mystery, still unsolved, is why it led to such a large epidemic only here.

Mr Hogg is fair game and Labour's decision to gun for him on Monday is understandable, reasonable, realistic. Of course it's nothing personal; the man himself is a mere cypher for the Government's overall failure in tackling the crisis the long, slow build-up to the announcement of the CJD link last March and the hurricane that has blown ever since. He is inclined to bumptiousness in public, and it was unwise of him to refuse to attend the European Parliament's inquiry into the crisis. But his real offence is to have been the Government's front man when things went really wrong.

Labour, however, ought to pray that it is never challenged by a crisis which is so far-reaching, challenging and as bewilderingly complex as BSE. Frankly, any government would he found wanting.



w the

us

· CT

ith

since is tak-me learning sidy Sunday, a tilled on and not even of Mate-en-

went, a man sales

has a decent home

Northern Irela

יום ותטומי. Nationalist fam

there were 39,000 April ago, abri picture paper, hold-markerchief Londonderry, No. 68,000, But the Xie new housing in a lution that has the opers as he of a crowd long it might the heftere the mines the majority he said on Retired trightening factly: Twenty-fix go, he is still

and that clusive box disappear. But the which was was all about Inc wosrily. "I the writer Uhck Ofe sixyed and once told me of he issue of of armsi. officer had amon Fein being his hands and become south of Newry. The don't think doing going any asked the play find the fecking tik anybody ng kwward had replied, Andre

The peace process isn't going mywhere 🤊 Bishop Daly

army base, on them. ban and memorial, "In Mem Gillespie," it sid? **British** Husband and Falle abment off m. At that that he may be asig ind here i of Your Peace, Press Soldiers. ing the pro-Just beword seggested, was the box creddn't fied it lê - Buld laish Gaida office

County Donegal st In ontice. Where exc Pender, Laskedhiefi u leeld laugh. Tie IRA-men know for certainly never walked further: July, when he replied Thos stream over thereaf COMMITTED AND told it mins behindit I knowked on the fe ou dan't Course. It was des withe realwines planning some

r on then. the trees beside it id is born. bed in the face. Behan-liker and three laintly detect at nich come change in the target a because luque a millimetre some This the beight of the k w are still Was this the books LA PERPARE L BOOK OF have been North nd went. way a carayan besh ewen the Three children as MOREUS. and taker spe imen, but selves to the winds. DEBUTY OF come from Anna in algori Sand. So where 18 il unkul

l knelt deamak

Beland me, in the

was the holder "B a world is aione that duck of manporters the road," the man rubbing he come tele I lats. Commis through b. take cour-Wilklem But if out knew where therest . As the it's here. And her Bogside. right foreingering 2009 HAS houds that leading in beta in ting against hasked the old prestant.

mobile Reading, another & and so with its the offered from some SE

retoscal Hegologia phone He hundred shoulders to stead and and made to if to all Blook hell is hich he had bell lus name). He ago h tur ger Jupping phone Order Ambler burns man Vallet with law or Den't the word July my Have Vini if the rest. such people is high to the National Real Anthor blunk. the level with the Vupple like the winds

occidentify to the wife, and before and parties the conversation, but he wife, and conversation to the con ger to Padduckin is all invites to the would have been the part of the part of the would have been a part of the part of

the a bring at a large Well, that's a less gase, whalever here happy St Valenti

business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Talk of £1.3bn bid by Williams key to leap in Chubb shares

Tom Stevenson City Editor

night tipped to launch a £1.3bn recommended offer for locks and alarms group Chubb today, five years after it made an unsuccessful £700m bid for the company's former parent Racal. Expectations of a hid from the conglumerate, whose own se-curity arm owns the Yale brand,

Pearson, the sprawling media

conglomerate, yesterday re-

vealed that it had fallen victim

to a complex accounting scan-dal which will force the group to take a £100m charge against

The irregularities centre un Penguin Books in America

where a rogue individual in

the accounts department bad

been secretly giving unautho-

rised discounts to retailers in re-

turn fur carly payment. Stretching back to 1991 the ir-

regularities involved what Pear-

son described as "an accounting

web of breathtaking complexi-

ty." It is thought that the irreg-

ularities covered a significant proportion of Penguin USA's

Fallowing beavy losses at Mindscape, the US software

house acquired by Pearson in

1994, the Penguin problems

cast fresh daubts on Pearson's

abdity to run businesses in

America. Analysts said the

scandal would also make Pear-

son more vulnerable to a break-

up bid as predators seek to

parate interests which range ing in the book trade that Pen-

unlock the value of its dis-

from Lazards, the merchant

"The more they [Pearson] dis-

appoint, the more people expect

someone to bid or them," said

Anthuny de Larrinaga, media

After sharp falls following the

announcement. Pearson shares

recovered to close 14p lower at

749.5p supported by takeover

analyst at Panmure Gurdon.

bank, tu Madame Tussauds.

its 1996 financial results.

sent Chubb's shares soaring. following disappointing recent Sir Ernest Harrison's focus on £1bn, has an attractive share of Far East with its security and fire suggesting it planned to spend Chubb provoked intense spectresults and speculation immediately following disappointing recent creating shareholder value. Fol the estimated £25bn world-prevention operations, the two about £500m on infill ulation yesterday when it issued a statement saying it was in talks that might lead to an offer being made for the company at up to 450p a share but refused to name the bidder. In the market the shares closed 79p higher at 420p, their highest level for

Analysts said a bid for the company was not unexpected another example of chairman

US accounts

scandal costs

Pearson £100m

Marjorie Scarding, who only

joined Pearson as chief executive

last month. Yesterday, she

stressed that the scandal did not

affect the underlying profitabil-ity of Pearson and that the

prompt action by new manage-

ment showed that Pearson was

getting to grips with the problems.

ny and I bave been very im-

pressed with the quality of the

management in most of the di-

The accounting scandal arose

at Penguin USA's accounting

functions in Bergenfield, New

Jersey. Pearson claims one per-

son involved in the accounts re-

ceivable division started offering

discounts to retailers in 1991 in

return for early payment. The

discounts averaged 5-7 per cent

nior level nor paid a high salary.

Though bonuses were payable

Pearson claim there was no fi-

nancial motive for the employ-

thought their job was to ensure

prompt payment from customers

and that success in this area

Rumours had been circulat-

would be welcomed by bosses.

guin's US profits may have

been overstated. "In recent

years it has surprised many in

the industry the way Penguin in

the US has been able to fulfil

very demanding financial targets

from Pearson," said a senior fig-

ure in the book trade who has

environment of a publishing

house, where buge numbers of

dealt with the publisher.

visions," she said.

"This is still a strong compa-

diately focused on a handful of potential buyers including Rentokil Initial, Ingersoll-Rand, Tyco and Republic Industries. After strong profits growth ful-lowing Chubb's demerger from Racal in 1991, the company had recently failed to live up to ear-

One analyst said the sale was

it relatively easy for a deter-mined individual to deceive

management and the auditors. "This person was very sophis-

ticated at moving sums of mon-

ey around the system," Pearson said. One industry expert said

Penguin's problem was not like-

ly to affect the UK division,

here operations were tighter.

by Michael Lynton, who took

over as chairman and chief ex-

ecutive in January having re-

placed Peter Mayer who retired.

He discovered the irregularities

when varying terms of trade

with retailers emerged follow-

ing the merger of Penguin USA

Pearson says the accounting

with Putnam Berkley in 1995.

practices were stopped immediately on discovery and have not been taking place at any

other Penguin businesses out-side the US ur at Putnam.

The scandal was uncovered

lowing the successful demerger of Vodasone in the late 1980s from Racal, Sir Ernest had spun off Chubb and installed David Peacock as chief executive with a remit to cut costs. Now that process was largely complete, a disposal of the company was the logical next step, the analyst added.

wide market for electronic and physical security. It has faced from the relatively low-growth markets of the developed economies to regions with more exciting growth prospects such as China, where the security business is starting more or less from scratch.

grow at the expense of its lowgrowth building materials division, the UK part of which it recently sold for £303m. Although analysts thought a

bid from Williams would make strong commercial sense, some questioned whether it would want to make such a large acquisition after recent comments

purchases. Williams has also indicated it would not issue further new shares to finance its

ongoing expansion. Buying Chubb now, however, was viewed as an oppora company which will not see the benefit of recent acquisitions

John Willcock

David Crook, a former senior trader with a merchant bank, has been banned from doing investment business by City watchdogs for the "grossly improper" transfer of \$79,000 of the bank's money to an associate of his in Zimbabwe.

SFA bars

Crook

from UK

trading

Mr Crook joined Henry Ansbacher three years ago as a se-nior dealer in South African government bonds and gold shares. Yesterday he was expelled from the register of the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), which will bar him from trading in the UK. He has also been ordered to pay the SFA costs of £8,500.

An SFA tribunal found that Mr Crook bad "consistently and repeatedly lied or resorted to half-truths" during interviews with the regulator about his bank accounts.

Ansbacher is owned by South
Africa's First National Bank of
Southern Africa and has been
reprimanded, fined £20,000 and
required to pay costs of £5,400,
the SFA said. A spokesman for
Ansbacher said: "No comment." The SFA has handed details

of Mr Crook's case to the City of London Police. The police were unable yesterday to con-firm whether or not they were investigating Mr Crook. A spokesman for the SFA

said yesterday: "I am not say-ing that our case against har ployer of the \$70,000, but the circumstances of the case automatically put it into the 'notify

police' category."

Mr Crook a South African national, joined Ausbacher in April 1994. The following August. while the manager in charge of deal settlements was on holiday, Mr Crook made a payment of. \$70,000 by pretending that these were funds needed by a new

bacher with another firm. The SFA says: In fact no such account existed, and the payment was really an unauthorised transfer of funds to an associate of Mr Crook in Zimbabwe."

ager returned from holiday he realised that this payment had nut been properly anthorised. The SFA was told about the deal by the bank in June 1995. by which time Mr Crook had been suspended. He had also repaid the \$70,000 by borrowing

Discounts affair at Penguin deals another blow to conglomerate but Scardino insists she is getting to grips with problems

Riding the storm: Despite the scandal Marjorie Scardino, Pearson's new chief executive (pictured with the chalrman Dennis Stevenson), said the conglomerate's underlying profitability would be unaffected Photograph; Peter Macdiamild

A success story in paperback

Those found responsible Penguin is more than just one of have been and will be appropriately dealt with," Pearson the most venerable names in the book publishing world. It is an angust institution - albeit one said yesterday. The individual responsible for the scandal was fired earlier this month. The now tainted with the whiff of company did not say if it would

press for fraud charges. Established in 1935 to help ed-Legal action against the forncate the masses with sixpence paperbacks of classics, Penguin mer auditors Arthur Andersen has grown to become the largest bringing with them books such consumer book publisher in the as Shirley Conran's Lace and is possible, though the company would not comment yesterday. Pearson has launched a full UK and number four in the US, investigation led by its lawyers with global sales of £369m and and its recently appointed auprofits of £33.6m in 1995. It is diturs, Price Waterhouse. also the leading publisher of children's books in the UK, using the It is possible that Penguin may be forced to make payfamnus Ladybird imprint.

Pearson said that the complex ments to retailers who were not Yet its financial fortunes have always waxed and waned. Comment, page 21. Bought by Pearson in the late

Sixties, Penguin was suffering er," said a senior industry figure heavy losses when Peter Mayer, a brash American, took over as chief executive in 1979.

scrapping. Penguin's famous orange book covers - the green ones for thrillers also went. Traditionalists were also shocked when he bought hardback imprints such as Viking, Michael Joseph and Hamish Hamilton, Jane Fonda's Work-Out.

Mr Mayer was also a ruthless cost-cutter. In 1995 alone, 100 staff in the London headquarters were sacked, the managing director was replaced, some authors threatened to leave and morale plummeted. "There was some deal of fear about Mr Mayyesterday. "Questions were nev-

Mr Mayer was proud of the Mr Mayer wasted no time in cultural changes he had nuleashed. "Penguin has been liberated," he boasted to Pub-lishing News shortly before announcing his surprise decision to quit last year. "We can publish any kind of book we want to." But he was no barbarian at the

gate, being prepared to take risks for the sake of literary freedom. Penguin published Salman Rushdie's The Satanic Verser and, like the author, Mr Mayer has lived under an Islamic death sentence since 1989 .

However, Penguin has struggled in the UK over the past. couple of years from substantial destocking, the collapse of the

tailers discounting best sellers. But in the US Penguin contiqued to do better than its rivals, estensibly thanks to a strong fist of authors and imprints acquired in the late 1980s. Yesterday's unearthing of a £100m black hole in the ac-

Net Book Agreement and big re-

counts, blamed by Pearson on une middle-ranking employee, raises questions marks about how much of that performance was down to cooking the books. Mr Mayer's successor, Michael Lynton, a 36-year-old Harvard Business School graduate who ran the Disney studio

Hullywood Pictures, recently described his new job as "a dream come true". Six weeks after taking over, it has turned into a nightmare.

trading account opened by Ans-When the settlements man-

the muney personally. He was later sacked for "gross misconduct".

Tesco cuts NatWest tie to link with Royal Bank

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

A five-year financial services partnership between Tesco and NatWest agreed last summer broke up vesterday when the supermarket giant announced plans to team up instead with the Reval Bank of Scotland. NatWest said it had refused

to help Tesco expand further into retail banking and insurance, a decision which is the clearest indication so far of the extent of the threat from the supermarket chains to the hig English high street banks. Tesco's large store network

could soon be competing bead-on with NatWest's branches, hui Royal Bank has a far smaller overlap with Tesco.

It has only a 3-4 per cent banking market share in Eng-

land and Wales. Shortly afterwards, Lord MacLaurin, chairman of Tesco. resigned as a non-executive director on the NatWest board be-

cause of the potential conflict of interest, and David Reid, the

STOCK MARKETS

deputy chairman of Tesco, quit his non-executive directorship of the insurance group Legal & General. Tesco will sell life insurance through its new joint venture with Royal Bank, which owns the telephone insurance company Direct Line and also has a strategic partnership with Scottish Widows, a competitor of L&G.

Derek Wantess, NatWest chief executive, said Tesco's

NatWest is to bring all its investment management and long-term savings businesses under one umbrella, with the formation nf n new grouping to be called NatWest Wealth Management. The business will have funds of £60bn under management and will be run by Paul Myners, chairman of Gartmore, the fund management firm taken over by NatWest. The business will in clude Gartmore, NatWest Life & Investment Services, as well as NatWest's UK life assurance. pensions and investment arms and NatWest Ventures, which provides private equity capital.

plans conflicted with NatWest's own retail banking strategy. It emerged that NatWest may make a claim against Tesco for the cost of pulling out of the five-year contract to manage the pioneering Tesco Clubcard, which pays interest on credit bal-

given discounts.

ances and has a low charge to borrowers. The Clubcard sparked the war among supermarkets to enter financial NatWest said the intention had been to work with Tesco over the five years of the contract to

develop new card-based products, but "what they came to us with was akin to full retail banking and that did not fit with us". NatWest added: "We will have to sit down with Tesco to thrash it out. There is a contract

and they have given indications today that it will he broken." Tesco said it offered Nat West the opportunity to continue as its banking partner but the uffer was declined. Nat West refused to rule out a claim against Tesco for the cost of winding down the Clubcard service,



which employs a separate processing unit and a number of managers at the banking group to service the 9 million Clubcard

ه المن المامل

Nat West was that Tesco decided to go well beyond plastic card products by developing a wide range of services including a pi-

later this year. The first big launch will be a Tesco credit card. The joint venture may apply for a banking licence.

customers. The problem for lot project for an in-store bank

Bay's change Change(%) 1996/97 Kigh 1896/97 Low York(%) 2134.70 +10.00 +0.5 6961.63 18688.06 +278.10 +1.5 3229.48 +13.34 Source: FT Information

			_) I IIII 2 3									_		-		-
Short s 6.36 6.36 6.36 6.26	sterling		Separate Separate	K medial	gilt	IS long			5/5									The second secon
											K MENT A 12	-						
loney Max				Board Yie					Pozni				Dollar					
dez	1 Monti	11		Helius So	nd (%) Year Age	red g	<u> </u>	X) Year Ago		Vester day	Cing	kr lo		Yes	terky	ميحاث	Year Ago	
K	6.13	6.3	34	7.13	7.69	7.21	$\overline{}$	7.87	\$ (London)	1,6221	-0.92c	1.5385	£ (London	1 0:	5165	+0.35	0.6503	-
5	5.44	5,9		6.40	5.60	6.69		6.10	\$ (N York)‡	1.6235			£ (N York)		5160		0.6502	
anan .	0.56	8.4	_	2.37	2,98	-			DM (London			2.2603	PM (Lond					_
ermany	3.13	3.1		5.56	6.14	6.36			Y (London)			184.314	¥ (Landon					
Penchuark.				4.00					£ ledex	97.8	-0.4	84.2	\$ ladex		03.9	+0.3		-
			_	_	_	-	_		E-Thorn	97.0					עטים.	_ <u>+u.ə</u>	96,0	L
	-	_	MA	N PRIC	E CHANGES							OTHER I	ADICATOR:	S				
ises -		Prior (p) (-	Congri	Falls	Mice (a)	ر جيڪ	(s) % Change		Yesterday	Day's chg	Year Ago		index.	Latest	Tr Ago	Next Figs	
hubb Sec	urity	420	79	23.2	Astaley (Laura)	135.5	11	7.5	Of Brent \$	20.52	-5.6	17.73	RPI 1	54.4	unch	150.6	13 Mar	-
acal Bect	ronics 2	76.5	13.5	5.1	Croda Inti	319	19.5		Gold S	342.15	+1.4	402.80				105.7		_
mith & No	ephew	188	9	5,0	Manchester Utd	641.5	33.5		Gold £	210.93	+2.33	251.81	Base Rates			6.75		-
4					-			2						<u> </u>		_		_

Ofgas opposes windfall tax on British Gas

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Clare Spottiswoode, the gas industry regulator, yesterday signalled her clear opposition to attempts by Labour to impose its planned windfall utility tax on British Gas.

Responding to plans by Gor-don Brown, the shadow chancellor, to levy a broad tax on the excess profits of priva-tised utilities. Ms Spottiswoode doubted whether the principle behind the levy could be applied to British Gas. She explained: "If I was going to do my joh properly then there won't be any excess profits. If there aren't going to be any excess profits then it would be difficult to justify a windfall tax."

She argued the price controls planned for the group's pipeline business, TransCo, which would cut about £30 uff average bills from April, were designed to eliminate any excess earnings. British Gas has taken its battle against the price regime to the Monopolies and Mergers Com-

Ms Spottiswoode pointed out that current shareholders in the company were not necessarily the same ones who had made excess profits on the rise in the share price since privatisation. Last year small investors, or "Sids", saw British Gas's share price dive by a third, wiping out a large chunk of the excess gains, as the City took fright at the TransCo price pro-

Her comments yesterday were the most outspoken yet by a regulator against the windfall tax and bring Ms Spottiswoode

into an unlikely alliance with British Gas on the issue Hoss. British Gas on the issue. However they could damage her relations with Labour in the

run-up to the election." In a separate move she confirmed her intention to publish several British Gas documents to try to provoke the company into a court battle over the disclosure of internal information. She dismissed British Gas's argument that much of the data it submits to Ofgas, her department, could affect its share price if it was made pub-

"It is time that we really tested the law ... A lot of the complaints British Gas has about confidentiality are bogus;" Ms Sportiswoode said.

Ofgas also disclosed that independent gas supply companies operating in trials of domestic competition in the south of England had agreed to a new voluntary code of conduct after allegations of dubious sales tactics.

Ms Spottiswoode said all British Gas's rivals would be joining the Direct Selling Association, a body recognised by

the Office of Fair Trading. The Gas Consumers Council had wanted Ofgas to make the code legally enforceable using its license conditions. Ms Spottiswoode said she would "seriously consider" such a move, but only if the selling problems were not sorted our

Ofgas yesterday released its annual report showing complaints against British Gas had tripled last year to 9,287. Ms Spottiswoode said complaints had levelled off but were "far

Section of the tenne respectation

Per in 11 in 110 in 110 **foct** Park coll by mother de-

TALBON !

UKAN .

11 to 18 1

Ludge

ments.

LALL EAGUE

an expense

fall un t

cluthers

January

SENTER COMMITTEE CONTRACTOR

sea track to be the

ಇದೆ ಎಂಬ ಎಲ್ಲ ಸ್ಥಾನ್ಯ ಸ್ಥಾನ್ಯ

State of the Ma

fire out on a policy li

apparate the fitters

The cast has the tree in

Baldabare for the great

Signaturation below

Acceptance and of the

bar the Chaire first Remainder of the Bush with the College of

had of the contients

true Tes may re-

nehemogole the orientative

mens were contained

and with the interior

am though they

appearance in the

deminia, d

Z return in

The Futor Care Labour desired to they be dipled descentionals of Prote for growth wa come and the result and confidence to but lates @ Jen (cantillant of the Wall helioconstruction in THEMAN Europe to 1 mon In weight Complete to the first fi

TENC MINISTER The state of the s Haliston MAR and trud The breacheung Addis although the marily hiller diene bester HET THE

tamin'i manifash plication of the state of the s the product of that or Hel Par the little winter the Missister of the COUNTY W

period of the state of the state of policies communications

of other armittee, a par-Chimin Bratil bear but builted

the state of a family the fire de grain auf grad ut

the Court policy services Markey al calle for Solding It is being then waters but the Separate Action of the Color of

SMOR

iuts

r ×

₹T

i the

4115

iver

vith

had

TO

iŧ

pend intil uo in-

MOV.

trading John Willcock David Crook, a former &

trader with a merchant trader with a merchant has been burned from a investment business by watchdays for the "public burne's money to a feet burne's the bank's money to make ate of his in Zimbaba.

Mr Crook joined Heart bacher three years and inter dealer in South &

government bands ad a shares. Yesterday he is pelled from the regard Securities and Future thority (SFA), which where him from trading in the ly has also been ordered by SFA costs of £8,500. An SFA tribunal food An STA Tribunal load.

Mr Crook had come and repeatedly lied or set to half-truths during a views with the regulator.

his bank accounts. Anshacher is ownedly Africa's First Nationalis Southern Africa and has reprimanded, fined files required to pay cost offer the SFA said, A spokens Ansheather said, None

The SFA has handed of Mr Crook's case to be of London Police. The were unable vesterdate firm whether or not here investigating Mr Crook A spokesman for he said vesterday: "I am my

ing that our case again Crook revolved around to permanently depicts plover of the \$70,000 kg circumstances of theore matically put it into the pelice category." Mr Chark a South And

Biograf, princed Anshadicit 1994. The following & While the manager indu deal settlementsvæmle Mr. Crook made a pose \$7(1) Will be pretending the were lunds needed by grading account opendly backer with anotheriou The SFANN hafe

account crosted and in: factif was really an impile of Mr t rook in Zimbe When the sentence: ager returned from both teatherd that this paper troi been properly autre

The SLA was fold at deal by the bank in lost by which time Mr Cod been suspended. Helalis pand the \$70,000 by hor the money personals & later sacked for misconduct".

grad-

MA A

mile in unlikely alter Bruish tan on the see ever they could damp! larnous with Labour run-up to the change In a separate mores Jirmed her michigher dicat to seren al British (in day to the to provide the anto a court banks closure of micros ÇÇVI tion. She dismiss City argument that & CAR CHO the data is submished

share price if the It is table that were ed the law Addition Confidentiality is the Sportion and sid dependent carante 6 加銀 omy said that although growth mes operating in was likely to rise above 2.5 per **aut**yok doneste companie control i indudicas cent in the next few years, unemployment would remain high MUUTAL. a new tributtayork ne hills without further structural realici allegalage de neg to Ma Spellinnink thatic chatte adles thelies. Bruish times mile secondard policy the Whee of Fall ing court The Care Control heal wanted office. case see the case of the case HOR CHARLE and it the loss were not softed at

Oleas to dentin

Personal selection of the

tradest last self that terefled all his

amoul weath

Penguin opens a new chapter in rogue traders

a fraud as apparently motiveless as this one

COMMENT

is to demonstrate serious failings in organisational structure and control. In Pearson's case, it

line - that the wrongdoer was clever, manipulative, devious and covered his tracks well. Furthermore, Pearson claims, in the world of book publishing it is easy to hide antics of this sort. But if what Pearson is trying to seems to confirm all the market's worst say here is that Pengnin is a shambolic and poorly organised environment in which this kind of thing tends to go by unnoticed, it suspicions of sloppy and unprofessional doesn't seem to help its cause much either. Ah well, if all else fails there are always management'

> though this is always a poor encuse when the main duty of care when booking sales lies As in all these cases, there can in the end

the auditors to blame. Quite a few nods were

being made in that direction yesterday too.

rogue traders, or so it would seem. Quite a

number of industrial and service companies

have been laid low by the rotten apple em-

ployee, too. But why did it seem so inevitable

that the first media company to be made a

langhing stock of in this way would be poor old accident-prone Pearson?

The first line of defence when confronted

with the sickening discovery of a wrong 'un within your midst is to claim that it could

have happened to anyone. Both Barings and

Morgan Grenfell used this excuse and it was

again being liberally applied yesterday by Pearson. If this seems family unbelievable, there's always this convenient little fall-back

It is not just investment banks that fall prey is to demonstrate serious failings in organ-these days to the antics of out-of-control isational structure and control. In Pearson's Case, it seems to confirm all the stock market's worst suspicions of sloppy and unprofessional management. Coming so soon after the Mindscape fiasco, it surely would have drawn blood had the old regime still been in place.

صكذا من الاجل

As it is, Pearson has already cleaned out the stables. There's a new team at the top. none of whom can really be blamed for this. and new auditors too. If Marjorie Scardino acts as tough as she talks, then a wind of change will shortly be sweeping through this sleepy old organisation; the neglect and sen-timentality that allowed this and other disasters to happen will soon be a thing of the past. But is she going to get the chance? There surely couldn't be a better time than this for that long-rumoured break-up bid. Some investors are going to be saying enough is enough, management changes notwithstanding.

Chubb fattened up for the kill

Even for someone as well versed in share-holder value as Sir Ernest Harrison, today's expected £1.3hn bid for Chubh is something of a coup. Not satisfied with spin-ning off first Vodafone and then Chubb from be no mitigation here. To fall victim even to

Racal, his sprawling electronics empire, he
a fraud as apparently motiveless as this one

has now given shareholders another slice of

flabby and undermanaged, grist to the mill for Ernie's hatchet-wielding lieutenant David Peacock, who set about the cost-base with gustu. No surprise that the shares should double during 1993 as he unlocked

the company's well-hidden potential. Since then, however, o has been downhill all the way as a talent for swinging the axe had to be replaced by a flair for top-line growth. The electronic and physical security market is huge, worth on some estimates £25bn a year, but in many developed mar-kets it is also stagnant. In a handful of Far Eastern markets it is growing fast from scratch, bul Chubb has struggled to capture

those sales. Chubb has had to work hard to shed its staid image and judging by its flagging rat-ing it has by and large failed. Profits from locks and safes have sagged as weak Euro-pean economies and the moribund Aus-tralian construction market took their toll. Even the sexier closed circuit TVs and alarms sector have struggled to generate double-digit growth. After disappointing interim figures before Christmas analysis have been taking the red pen to forecasts. So securing a bid at a premium of almost 50 per cent to the shares' recent low repre-

sents a real coup, even if delayed growth

from recent Australian acquisitions means

the price is less attractive than it might

value just as the locks and safes business was running out of steam.

When Chubb emerged from Racal it was a total of more than £200 compares pretty leading. favourably with the £700m Williams almost got away with paying five years ago.

Managements are usually pilloried for overpaying for assets, but this case shows the dangers of being too parsimonioos. If Chubb's latest suitor really is Williams once again, it is paying a heavy price for its light fists in 1991, when it was wadely thought that a final tweak to its offer would have won the

How Tesco played the wrong card

It is all very well for a bank to help a su-I permarket develop plastic payment and credit cards, a bread and butter processing service that can be done under anyone's brand name. But it seems to be quite a different story if a supermarket strays into banking heartland, by setting up branches in its stores and eventually applying for a bank-ing license. This is what tipped Nat West into withdrawing its co-operation from Tesco, whose phenomenally successful Clubcard ser-

vice the bank had helped build up. Prompted by Sainsbury's decision to set up a bank jointly owned with Bank of Scot-land, Tesco is now thinking of doing exactly the same itself, in a game of financial services leapfrog with its closest rival. Tesco will

Even if NatWest had been more co-oper-

ative, it is hard to fault the decision by Tesco to switch to Royal Bank, which like Bank of Scotland has such a small share of the English and Welsh markets that the conflict of interest is insubstantial. As part of a streamlining of retail banking services. NatWest vesterday announced it would be sticking its fund management, private hanking and life insurance operations into a single unit. In part, these moves are a response to tougher competition of exactly the sort that Sainsbury and Tesco are bringing to the banking

So it would have been a nonsense to continue the relationship, Indeed, eyebrows were raised when it was first announced, though at the time few realised what a threat the supermarkets might become to the banks. What neither side has yet admitted, however, is the likelihood that this will be a zero sum game. Banking is not a marketplace that will expand easily as new entrants arrive. The main impact of the supermatkets, therefore, will probably be to reduce the profitability of the banking market. There could be a quite vicious price war and smaller players will find it hard to survive. No wonder Lord MacLaurin was made to feel so uncomfortable in his position on the NatWest board, He's about in take a knife to the bank's soft under belly.

Jump in inflation puts Clarke on the spot

Economics Editor

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, suffered a fresh embarrassment yesterday when official figures showed an unexpected jump in the head-line rate of inflation.

The oews followed hard oo the heels of the Bank of England's prediction, earlier this week, that inflation was set to miss the Government's target.

The Chancellor rushed to deflect attention from the disappointing figures to a refrom a friendlier source, the European Commission. "The Commission highlights the Government's economic policies as the reasons for the stable and sustainable recovery of the UK economy," Mr

Clarke said. A Treasury statement picked out a paragraph in the EU report which said the Government could achieve the target of underlying inflation below 2.5 per cent by the end of the

current parliament. However, the Chancellor forgot to mention the report's next paragraph, which warus of the danger of the economy overheating. "This may require a tightening of monetary policy," it continued.

drop in the price of clothing and shoes since 1947, when Christian Dior introduced his revolutionary New Look.

Most economists still expect the target inflation mea-sure to fall below the key 2.5 per cent level during the next three months, but to start increasing subsequently.

Jonathan Loynes, UK economist at HSBC Markets, said: "This was a setback for Mr Clarke." But he said better oews in the pipeline over the next few months would allow the Chancellor to avoid having of the general election.

Indeed, the Chancellor had been informed about the inflation figures on Tuesday afternoon, well before he announced on the day of the Bank's Inflation Report that he saw no need for higher inter-

Retail price inflation rose to 2.8 per cent in January from 2.5 per cent in December, with most of the increase due to a rise in mortgage rates during the month compared with a de-cline the previous January. The target measure, which excludes mortgage interest pay ments, was unchanged at 3.1 per cent, rather than declining

as expected. There was a record-breaking City experts were certainly fall in the price of shoes and disappointed with the inflation clothing, down 5.8 per cent in figures, even though they showed the biggest one-month drop since figures began in

reached post-War records - to

meet the EMU deficit criterion.

But the report concedes question

marks over budgetary consoli-

dation in many member states

could tarnish the rosy picture.







Return to the past: Tamara Beckwith (left) modelling a "Diorama" cocktail dress for the 50th auniversary of Dior's New Look, January saw the biggest drop in prices of ciothes and shoes since 1947, when the New Look was launched. But the price of today's fashions (exemplified by Helena Christiansen) has increased sevenfold in the past 50 years

clothes has risen nearly sevenfold during the past half cen-

tury, their level is the same now as a year ago. The price of household goods also fell sharply. The 3.6 per cent deeline was the

creases in non-seasonal food prices, car insurance, secondhand cars and a variety of rvices. strongly supported the Gov-"Service sector inflation has emor of the Bank of England

The report praises Britain's

economic performance: the

1947. Although the price of higgest since 1956. But offset- at last responded to the in his call for higher borrow- ference of judgment hetween ting these drops in prices on the high street, there were in-year or two," said Simon Briscoe at Nikko.

Adam Cole at brokers James Capel said the figures

ing the deficit steadily down.

ing costs.
The Chancellor, however, insisted that his views and the Governor's were very close. "The Governor of the Bank and myself are entirely agreed that there is only a small dif-

us - one quarter of one per cent. He thinks I put a little too much emphasis on the present strength of sterling and I think he puts a little less emphasis on the strength of sterling," Mr Clarke told MPs yesterday.

British firms not scared of **Europe**

The Social Chapter has not scared British businesses from investing on the Continent. New research shows that UK investment in the European Union (EU) has overtaken investment in the US for the first lime, writes Diane Coyle.

There is also no evidence that the cost advantage of production in the UK rather than on the Cootinent is slowing down foreign investment by British manufacturers.

In the five years to 1990, new vestment by UK companies in the EU was £32.6bn, up from £20.6bn to the previous five years and from the tiny amounts in the early 1980s, according to a report published today by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. Investment in the US was far

higher, at £46bn, in 1986-90, but

the latest five years. There is some evidence that companies diverted their investment plans from the US to the Continent. The value of lotal British investment in Europe has similarly pulled ahead, rising to £71bn in 1995, compared with investments worth £60.7bn in North America. The figures highlight how much UK companies have at stake if staying

out of the single currency marginalises Britain in future. The reason for this drift towards Europe is the single market programme, according to author Nigel Pain. The single market has raised the value of UK business assets in the EU by a third. The impact has been most pronounced in financial services, which would help explain why the City of London tends to favour Britain joining the single European currency.

Flexible workforces needed in Europe

The European Commission and the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) both and greater use of voluntary joined the call for further deregulation in European labour part-time work. Employers markets yesterday, as they re-leased upbeat assessments of

the prospects for growth in Europe in the next few years. In its annual economic report the European Commission went further than before yesterday in calling on European Union (EU) governments to embrace worker flexibility as the key to casting off the millstone of persistently high unemployment.
Meanwhile, the OECD's anoual survey of the French econ-

form. It also predicted that on current policies France would not meet the Maastricht criteria for joining a single currency. The European Commission stops short of advocating the American economic model which for "social and political reasons" could not, it says, be emulated in Europe. The US approach to job creation had caused a "significant" drop in real wage income for the low skilled, the report said. Nevertheless, the Commission calls for pragmatic solutions" including below minimum wages for the low skilled, for young people or

the long-term unemployed,

Amid upbeat assessments for growth, the OECD and Brussels have focused on deregulation. Katherine Butler and Yvette Cooper report The Commission also warned

that one-off accounting tricks employed by some governments contributions at the lower end of the scale should be lowered to help their economies meet the entry criteria for EMU with any revenue loss offset by would not be enough to create the long-term budgetary stability taxes on pollution or other environmental levies. A Com-mission spokesman stressed, which membership demands. "The main risk to the broadly however, that the choice of favourable outlook would seem measures remained strictly for to reside in the possible emernational governments to decide. gence of doubts on the deter-Sticking to the upbeat growth mination of governments to and budgetary forecasts it issued accomplish the process of budlast November, the Commission getary consolidation," h said. anticipates steady growth in Eurostat, the EU's statistical 1997 despite growing concern over the ability of Germany watchdog, will give its verdict where unemployment has

Commission says the UK is experiencing "a recovery of longer duration than in the rest of the EU". Debt has risen as a percentage of GDP but consolidation of the public finances has helped slow the increase and it is expected to peak at 57 per cent in 1997. This just below the 60 per cent maximum stipulated under the EMU qualifying rules. Britain's public deficit has already been forecast by the next week oo the acceptability Commission to be 3.5 per cent of GDP in 1997 but the report of a range of measures taken to help member states such as admits this did not take account Italy become founding members of the euro in 1999. Rome of the latest cuts in government expenditure and new measures could be warned that its "Euroto combat tax evasion and fraod. The government expects tax" is an inappropriate weapon

get deficit.

Standardised unemployment rates

foreseen by the OECD's projection, there is some deficit slippage, there should be room to take the measures needed to bring it back on track. In the abtowards a sustainable low bud-get deficit. to bring the deficit down to 3 per cent of GDP this year but the report steers clear of predicting sence of additional measures, hether this will be achieved

The OECD forecasts that France will just miss the Maas-After two years of economic tricht deficit criteria. Its annual slowdown, the French economy report on the French economy is now expected to pick up. The predicts government borrowing in 1997 of 3.2 per cent. How-OECD said: "The sharp fall in interest rates since late 1995 and ever, the OECD say the Maas-tricht criteria are "within an improving international environment should set the stage for stronger growth in coming years." Tight monetary policyreach". Government borrowing is forecast to fall to 3 per cent as the French government kept interest rates high so that the of GDP by 1998. The French government has frozen nominal ending in the state bodget for franc shadowed the mark - at 1997, which will mean serious the same time as fiscal consolcuts in real terms. That, comidation and a slowdown elsebined with social security rewhere in Europe put pressure forms and the sizeable payment on the French economy. Howinto the government coffers from France Telecom, is bringever, the report predicts that the French economy should now

> The OECD points out that France has made progress in reforming its labour market, it believes that more could still be done. Unemployment staods at a record 12.7 per cent. The OECD forecast that unemployment will remain around 12.5 per cent this year, and will fall to 12.1 per cent in 1998. The report also points out that much of the problem is due

to rising unemployment among

the unskilled -a problem faced

by all European economies in-

grow by 2.5 per cent this year

and 2.6 per cent next year.

Notice under paragraph 7 of Schedule 17 to the Act further progress in fiscal con-solidation will be slow." Notice is hereby given that Woolwich Building

Society, Register No 683B whose principal office is at Corporate Headquarters, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 7RR desires to transfer its business to Woolwich plc, and that the society has applied to the Building Societies Commission to confirm the transfer.

BUILDING SOCIETIES

ACT 1986

Any interested party may make written representations to the Commission and/or give nonce of intention to make oral representations to the Commission with respect to the application. Written representations and notices of intention to make oral representations should be received by the Commission at Victory House, 30-34 Kingsway, London WC2B 6ES by 17th March 1997, Oral representations will be heard by the Commission on 16th April 1997 at a time and place to be determined by the Commission.

WOOLWICH

Principal Office: Corporate Headquarters. Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR



Shell set to explore brave new world

Shell tracked the market faithfully during the recession but it shrugged off the wider gloom in 1994 and has been widening the gap ever since. Better-than expected full-year figures yesterday lifted the shares another 27.5p to posure to the other damaging down-1.089p, fully justifying outgoing chairman John Jennings's decision to give shareholders a two-for-one scrip to lower the price.

Often criticised in the past for being slow to react to a fast-changing world. Shell has actually rewarded patient shareholders well over the years. Investors who bought 10 years ago, just before the crash, and held on, have seen their capital grow threefold. Reinvesting the steadily growing dividends over that period would have led to a six-fold appreciation.

Yesterday's 30 per cent rise in net income to £5.7bn, a record, underlined the benefits of diversified groups such as BP and Shell. In a year when the oil price rose steadily to well above its average trading range over the past 15 years, buoyant returns from exploration and production (up 74 per cent to £3.2bn) were more than enough to off-set a slump in chemicals profits (down 30 per cent to £762m) and an indifferent refining and marketing performance (2 per cent better at £1.75bn before exceptionals).

The upstream arm benefited from the price of Brent crude rising to its highest levels since the Gulf war spike in 1990/91. Shell has an unmatched spread of exploration prospects worldwide and is cutting the cost of extracting oil along with the best in the industry.

It is elsewhere in the business, however, that Shell's future performance will be decided. Refining margins have heen under pressure around the world for so long that inadequate returns are becoming the norm. In chemicals, that is the case in spades, and the challenge is relentlessly to cut costs and to churn the portfolio away from the basket case products where oversupply and weak demand mean there is no hope of ever getting a sensible margin.

Marketing, the lion's share of the

downstream operation, is the real problem area, with deregulation in pre-viously protected markets such as Japan causing havoc as old retail boundaries break down. In the brave new world of supermarkets selling petrol and oil companies peddling forecourt groceries, it will require nimbler feet than Shell has showe in the past to come out on top.
Shell's \$12.3bn cash pile puts the

company in an enviable position ahead of what the company forecasts to be a sustained rise in oil and gas production of perhaps 7 per cent a year for the next five years. To benefit fully from that it must beef up its spending on exploration and production capex, continue to explore partnerships such as the Texaco and Amoco alliances in North America and reduce the company's exTHE INVESTMENT COLUMN Even with 70 per cent of this year's revenues sold forward, the currency in-

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Shell will never set the investment pulse racing, but as a steady, core holding in an extremely well-run, reliable company, it is unbeatable.

Willis Corroon currency woes

Insurance brokers such as Willis Corroon have had little going for them over the past five years as rates have been driven relentlessly lower. The shares have been in steady retreat since peak-ing at 492p in 1986. Over the past five years alone they have lost 45 per cent of their value, dropping another 6.5p to 133p yesterday as currency wees were piled on top of the continuing gloom about insurance rates.

At first sight, the market's reaction looked churlish, given that pre-tax profits, up from £50.2m to £91.6m in the 12 months to December, came in ahead of expectations. The comparison was flattered by last year's net excep-tional hit of £30m, mainly for extra provisions to cover the group's withdrawal from certain UK underwriting operations. Equally, the rise in operating profits from continuing businesses

Five year record

Dividends per share (pence)

Brent crude price s/hbi

80 82 84 86 88 90 92 94 96

Pre-tax profits (£bn)

from Willis's Lloyd's members' agency. The £14.5m profit commission for the 1993 year of account, a bumper one for names, is the first for several years and Willis is warning that current estimates are that 1994 commissions will be around half the previous year's level.

Looking past these swings and roundabouts, the group is doing its best to manage its way through the storms which continue to swirl around the broking industry. The figures included a further £11.3m severance burden as employee numbers, 11,500 two years ago, fell another 11 per cent to 9,116.

They are probably the minimum re-

uired in a business operating in a market which saw premium rates fall another 10 per cent or so last year. In view of that, Willis did well to raise brokerage and fee revennes in the continuing business by 3 per cent to The picture is even better in most

individual business sectors. Willis enjoyed a 4 per cent rise in reinsurance brokerage last year, a 2 per cent in-crease in speciality businesses like marine and aerospace and growth of 6 per cent in so-called "retail" lines sold to companies in the UK and 3 per cent in North American retail.

With no debt, the group is well positioned to attack the maturity of its markets by buying some of its smaller from £79.4m to £87.8m was helped by competitors, but it still has a big hill what is likely to prove a one-off boost to climb.

1994 1995 1996

27.1 33.3 7 36.9

1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997

Share price perce

Shell: at a glance

Market value: £36.1bm, share price 1,089p.

1992 1993

pact of the pound at current rates could be £6m to £7m. Meanwhile, rates continue to fall. NatWest has raised its profits forecast to £94m for this year, putting the shares on a modest forward p/e of 10. Yielding 6.2 per cent, they are well supported, but investors hoping for a bid may be disappointed. Un-

Bensons bags a return to profit

Sadly, Bensons Crisps' record as an innovator in the snack market has not been matched by its financial performance. The tiny Lancashire-based company has won fame beyond its size for such classics as hedgehog-flavoured and jacket crisps, many of which have been copied by its deeper-pocketed bretheren. Such novelties did not prevent the group coming to the brink of collapse in 1994 after being hammered in a supermarket price war. But after a £4.6m rescue cash call at 16p a share two years ago, new management has wrestled the group on to an even keel.

Yesterday's return to the hlack after two years of losses only served to under-line the transformation. Pre-tax profits leapt to a record £2.03m in the year to November, up from losses of £747.000. producing earnings per share of 4p. The final dividend of 0.75p makes a 1p total for the year, the first year since 1993 that shareholders have been blessed with any payment.

The good news prompted a 5p rise in the shares to 40.5p yesterday, their best level for over two years.

The figures reflect a rationalisation

of the group's production facilities, which are now concentrated on a new £6.5m plant in Kirkham, near Preston. The resulting increased production efficiencies helped the £1.61m increase in turnover to £32.8m flow through to operating profits, which soared from £928,000 to £2.54m. The comparison was helped by a £933,000 provision for a loss on a business sold, while interest charges fell. There should be more of that after gearing tumbled

from 64 to 16 per cent during the year. The key question for Bensons, with just 6.5 per cent of the crisps market, is whether it can avoid the pitfalls of the past. Its Dandy and Beano crisps, joined last year by Spiderman extruded snacks, have continued to do well and it is cranking up a new line at Kirkham to take control of all its tortilla corn chip production. That should add another string to its own-label portfolio, which already covers 59 per cent of its crisp sales.

House brokers Peel Hunt reckon profits will rise to £2.4m this year, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 10. Reasonable value.

C&G to cut back mortgage deals as lending increases

Magnus Grimond

Cheltenham & Gloucester, the former building society now part of Lloyds TSB, called time on some of the more attractive deals available to borrowers yesterday as as it reported a near-doubling in its gross lending last year.

Andrew Longhurst, the for-mer chief executive who is to become chairman, said the flat housing market meant competition for remortgage business had been particularly vigorous over the past two years, resulting in some offers to customers which were "clearly unsustainable" in the longer term.
"We are already seeing a re-

turn to a more healthy situation and while competition will continue to be keen, margins in 1997 are tending to widen." Big discounts and "cash-back" schemes are likely to be phased out by competitors, he suggested. C&G, which prides itself on

providing low-cost, no-strings mortgages, has abandoned its own promise to undercut the big five housing lenders on rates since the beginning of February. Mr Longhurst said the new

commitment only to be "competitive" would have no signif-



Andrew Longhurst: Some

icant effect on borrowers, although he conceded there was little sign of any real im-provement in the housing market: "You need to draw a very clear distinction between house prices going up and actual sales volume activity, actual sales in the market."

second-lowest level of transactions for 20 years towards the end of 1996. "You are not looking at a very buoyant market in terms of transactions, as not many people are putting houses on the market," be said.

offers were unsustainable

The market recorded the

But despite the caution about

£35m from Britannia in mutual benefits

Britannia Building Society yes-terday underscored its determination to remain a mutual society by announcing a £35m distribution to its members under the Members' Loyalty Bonns Scheme, which was

Junched a year ago.

Junn Heaps, chief executive, said: "Even allowing for the costs to cover the Loyalty Bonus Scheme, special discount and associated costs, we have still managed to maintain nor solvency ratin and the investment programme necessary to improve nor service to members.

This is proof, if any were needed, that the Members' Loyalty Bonus Scheme is sostain-

able and that Britannia has a sound future as a thriving, modern mutual." Members earn points de-

pending on the length and depth of their membership. This year, the declared value of each point is 22p. Around 780,000 people qualify for payments of up to £50; 217,000 qualify for up to £100; and 43,000 qualify for mnre. The highest payment is £500, and the average is £35.

The payonts accompanied Britannia's results for 1996, showing that a drop in interest receivable from £815m tn £753m was almost cancelled out by a reduction in interest. payable from £622m to £563m.

the market, C&G is continuing to prosper. Reporting its first full-year's figures since its £1.8bn acquisition by Lloyds in August 1995, the group re-vealed a 92 per cent increase in gross advances to £6.74bn, boosted by the addition of

SIE VOLUME

Lloyds' existing mortgage book.

Pre-tax profits leapt 36 per cent to £336m in 1996, helped by bad debt provisions slashed from £43.7m to £11.2m as ar-rears fell and rising house prices cut the level of negative equity. Arrears are said still to be running at below half the industry average of around 1.6 per cent

C&G is now claiming a 15.1 per cent share of the market for net new mortgage lending after net advances soared from £1.62bn to £2.82bn last year. The group said it was taking twice the amount of new business that its "natural", market share would suggest: at the end of the year, its share of total outstanding mortgages in the UK had risen from 6.5 to 6.9 per cent.

Mr Longhurst said they had delivered on the strategy laid out in the transfer document which members were asked to vote on when Lloyds acquired

"In the first year we have been able to double mortgage lending, double our natural market share and we have driven down the cost-asset ratio."

But it has not been entirely painless: the group's costincome ratio crept up 1 per-centage point to 33 per cent in 1996. Mr Longhurst blamed this on last year's interest rate promise, cash "gifts" paid to new borrowers and the decision not to charge them any initial set-up or other fees. He said Lloyds TSB, which

reports its 1996 profits today, remained "alert" to strategic acquisitions, but there was nothing on the stocks at the moment. The group will see around 1,000 branches added this year, taking the total to some 3,000, after it starts selling through TSB, Black Horse Agencies and Lloyds Property

Chris: NVQ Whotesuting. Warehousing & Stores 1 Adale: NVQ Management Adele, 34; It's not the end of the line... recame obvious they had made

don skill. Awarded on merit.

Get on the line to find out what NVQs can do for your business

0800 072 1777

In Brief

ber performance that was much weaker than originally estimated. Sales rose by 0.6 per cent in January, or 0.4 per cent excluding cars. But the increase for December was revised down by half to a modest 0.3 per cent. These figures hinted at a slightly weaker pace of economic growth, but the weekly figures for new jobless claims pointed in the opposite direction. They fell to 309,000 last week, the lowest number since July when job creation was pow-ering ahead, from 324,000 the week before. The financial markets took the mix favourably, oo balance. More significant figures, for industrial production and capacity use, are due today.

• The Government's Paymaster agency is being sold to EDS/Hogg Robinson for £22.7m. The agency provides pensions and bank-ing-type services to the public sector. It has annual turnover in excess of £25m, administers 1.6 million public sector pensions, operates accounts with the Bank of England of 1.400 government departments, agencies and other public-sector organisations, and has comprehensive in-house information technology systems. West European car registrations fell 2.9 per cent in January

to 1,130,000, according to the Association des Constructeurs Europeens d'Automobiles. Registrations in the 15 EU countries fell 2.5 per cent to 1,099,200, while those in Norway and Switzerland were down 16.3 per cent to 30,800. The sharpest falls were a 33.7 per cent drop in French registrations to 122,300, a 26.3 per cent decline in Switzerland to 19,600, and a 9.7 per cent decrease to 23,400 m Austria. There were sharp rises in Sweden of 28.4 per cent to 14,400, in Spain of 22.1 per cent to 68,600 and in Ireland of 20.7 per cent to 20,400.

Telewest Communications has appointed Stephen Davidson chief executive. He has been acting chief executive since Angust. The company has also appointed Charles Burdick as finance director.

• BAA said its seven UK airports handled a total of 6.7 million passengers in January, an increase of 5.2 per cent on the same month last year. The company said the increase would have been 6 per cent but for the effect of fog disruption at London's Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports, which reduced the number of passengers by about 30,000. All major markets saw growth in the month, with North Atlantic services growing by 12.2 per cent and other long haul routes up by 7.9 per cent.

Lufthansa said its cargo operation and Scandinavian Airlines Systems Cargo are to co-ordinate freight, sales and marketing activities as part of a drive to cut costs. The companies, which already operate joint passenger flights, will share freight tech-nology services and work together on new products.

Copyright Promotions has signed a contract for the Mr Men characters with Playmates Toys of the US. Playmates Toys will develop a range of Mr Men and Little Miss toys in time for the first broadcasts of the Mr Men TV series in the US in the antumn.

Macfarlane Group (Clansman) is huying Amalgamated Plastics, a maker of polyethylene film, for a maximum £7.5m. In the year to October, Amalgamated made profits of just under £500,000

• Candover Investments, the venture capital company, said the heady level of mergers and acquisitions in the UK could continue over the next five years. It said a survey of 50 of the UK's biggest companies showed that 44 per cent planned to make an acquisition within the next wear and 76 per cent were likely to do so sition within the next year, and 76 per cent were likely to do so in the next five years.

	Compa	ny Resu	lts	
	Turnover £	Pre-tax €	EP\$	Dividend
Armitage Bres (1)	15.5m (14.0m)	1.03m (0.94m)	17.1p (15.5p)	8.3p (3.1p)
Beatous Crisps (F)	32.8m (31.2m)	2.03m (0.75m)	40 (-1p)	1p (nli)
Margen Sindali (F)	283m (175m)	5.17m (3.02m)	13.13p (8.03p)	4.2p (2.7p)
WMS Carroon (F)	- (-)	91.6m (50.2m)	13p (7p)	6.6p (6.6p)
(F) - Rosel (I) - Intentro	-			- Inited

Ivory & Sime rebuilds fund manager team

Magnus Grimond

lvory & Sime, the troubled Edinburgh investment management group, yesterday moved to repair some of the damage caused by last week's ousting of managing director Colin Hook by announcing the recruitment of five senior fund managers.

The new recruits will fill some of the gaps created in the last two months by the departure of seven executives, including two board members, which has prompted speculation that the group is ripe to be taken

But Sir David Kinloch, who was drafted in by Caledonia Investments, lvory's controlling shareholder, to replace Mr Hook, again firmly rebutted any suggestion that the group was for sale and suggested that morale was starting to improve. "I would like to think things are much more stable here." The group had not lost any of its funds under management since the latest upheavals came to light, he said. "I think clients are broadly happy. None have indicated they want to leave."
The new team is headed by

Raymond Haines, a former

Samuel Asset Management.

Also joining are Paul Galloway, a refugee from General Accident, which is moving its fund management operation to London, Danika O'Neal, who is coming from Investment Bank Austria to take up a new role ocvering European smaller companies and Ray-mond Abboti, coming back to Ivory after seven months with the Royal Bank of Scotland, The fifth recruit, George Purves, is already in place as senior dealer after 30 years with Edinburgh stockbrokers Bell Lawne

Sir David said they were still working on filling one or two further gaps, but added: "I think this is an indication we haven't been idle. They had been working on recruiting people over the past five weeks. We had quite a lot of interest. but it would be wrong to say people were beating a path to our door."

He refused to be drawn on. whether Ivory was looking for a replacement at board level for Gordon Neilly, the former busness development director, who left at the end of last year.

British Biotech finance boss quits

Magnus Grimond

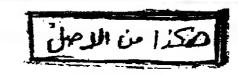
British Biotech, the UK's leading biotechnology group, sur-prised the City yesterday by announcing the sudden resignation of its finance director, James Noble, leaving behind potential option profits of around £2.85m. Shares in the group initially fell 20p, before recover-

ing to end 9.5p down at 239p.
Mr Noble was a key figure in
the group's relations with both the City and the press and one shareholder suggested yesterday he had been guilty of "overegging" the story at times. But Keith McCullagh, chief executive, said there had been no dissatisfaction with Mr Noble.

counts has been exemplary. The company was moving to a new stage of its development as it established new trading subsidiaries on the Continent, which would require the establishment of systems and procedures to match.

"James has been thinking whether he wants to help take. us forward as the next stage of his career and he has come to. the conclusion that he doesn't."

Mr Noble, who arrived from Kleinwort Benson, the mer chant bank, in 1990, is understood to be looking at a number of other options, including joining some young growing com-



city avel,

M.P.

ackenn

ur of

e nub

WILE >

onaki

ı bow > in the

REVOLUN

d, the Ohver mox g with

O: ายลก as bad

the market. C&G name to prosper. Reporting to full-year's figures for L1. Some acquisation below worded as a percent pour gross advances to fast brooked by the additional Lawys events and the additional control of the prosper to fast brooked by the additional control of the control of the control of the prosper to fast brooked by the additional control of the cont Briss devinces to the briefled by the adding likewise existing managers. Pre-tay profits leap & cent to £350m in look by the lead debt provinced. by had debt provided them £43.7m to £12.2m; rears lell and rising losses cut the level of negative Arrears are said sidely nink at pelon palithese

of horrowers.

भाग प्रशास्त्र

d in the Acres. gre, un h. w|101 gridhig Heurer group addition abaza. metalic The M MHCC

Data Bank FTSE 190 4327.1 +22.8 FTSE 250 4586.7 +12.2

FTSE 350 2134.7 +10.0 SEAO VOLUME



Footsie reaches new high in spite of election jitters Equities enjoyed another well although there is a suspi-record-breaking session, draw-cion the market could endure ing encouragement from New a bout of summertime blues. York's outstanding overnight

display. Footsie stretched 22.8 points to 4,327.1, topping last week's peak by 19.3. becoming increasingly appar-ent. To a large extent election jitters have been masked by Wall Street's strength. Al-though the stock market has attempted to cling to Wall Street's coat-tails there is no

doubt it has found it difficult to remain in touch. Indeed the gap between Footsic and the Dow Jones Average is yawning wider and wider. At the start of last year it was around 1,400 points. When this year got under way the gap had stretched to 2,434

and as the market closed yes-

terday it stood near to 2,660.

However there remains a

Another outbreak of takeover activity, possibly due to the looming election, is helping to soak up some of the political Yet political nervousness is uncertainty. The mystery predator at Chubb Security

means a £1.3bn offer is in the market and comes on the heels of the battle for Newman Tonks and Fairey's successful strike for Burnfield. Siebe's modest £46m bid for Whessoe is seen as another indication that corporate Britain wants to get deals done and dusted be-fore polling day.

Chubb, firm on Wednesday
on takeover speculation,
jumped a further 79p to 420p;
the help is expected to come

the bid is expected to come in

to the takeover fuse. The chance of the Anglo-Dutch



MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

& Cohman, up a further 22.5p to 757.5p on SBC Warburg sup-port, seen as the most likely target. Since Unilever's ambitions became apparent Reckitt shares have climbed 48p. Smith & Nephew, the health

care group, is another regarded as a possible target. The shares gained 9p to 188p, highest since November, Last year Smith & Nephew was the subject of heady bid speculation with Johnson & John-

son, the US giant, seen as the most likely predator. Airtours, thought to be in the sights of Carnival, the US group with a 29 per cent in-terest, rose 19p to another

The Chubb excitement spik over to its former parent, Racai Electronic. A suspected meeting at Henderson Crosthwaite was another bullish influence. The shares rose 13.5p

other thought to be meeting analysts; its shares edged for-

ward 2.5p to 812.5p.
Shell, largely on its sharesplit, flared 27.5p to 1.089p; the
rest of the sector, with the exception of Caira Energy, had an indifferent session. Cairn
was helped by renewed exploration interest in Bangladesh
where it is deeply involved. The
shares rose 22p to 557.5p.
Inchespe, the international trading group, gained 9.5p to soon, jumped 25.5p to 883.5p 270.5p on Kleinwort Benson and Celliech rose 12.5p to support and BAA, rose 4p to 671.5p. Shield Diagnostic, still 545n on Lehman Brothers buy advice. Pearson was hit by the possible £100m provision. falling 14p to 749.5p.

Utilities were unsettled by Gordon Brown's assertion that Labour's planned windfall tax would be legal; Thames Water

fell 7p to 667p. Imperial Chemical Industries gave up 7p to 751.5p as Salomon Brothers reduced its recommendation to bold. It has substantially downgraded ex-pectations and is looking for intie changed profits of £611m this year and £702m next.

An upbeat profits forecast an unusual event in these days an unusual event in these days of profit warnings - sent clothing group French Connection 45.5p higher at 315p and abcad of figures today Flying Flowers moved up 3.5p to 215.5p. Health shares were strong. SmithKline Beecham, figures

awaiting trial results on its method of detecting heart disease, gained another 45.5p to 370.5p. But British Blotech fell 9.5p to 239p on the surprising departure of finance director James Noble. At one time the

shares were off 20p. Copyright Promotions, the merchandising group, jumped 10.5p to 91p after signing up with Playmates Toys of the US for the development of the "Mr

Men" brand. Stockbroker Charterhouse Timey had a busy day, col-lecting two brokerships - John Maunders, a builder, and Hunters Armiey, a printer.

Maunders held at 185p and Hunters at 102.5p. Tracadero, the lessure group, fell 5p to 37p, a 12-month low, and director share-boying lifted wine har operator Pembertons 4.5p to 25p.

Taking Stock

Bartonwood Brewers, the Warrington group, continue to baffle. There has been a steady stream of small deals in the past few weeks, taking the price to a 196.5p peak.
The activity has prompted remours of stake-building ahead of a bid or selling by members of the three families which collectively have more than 40 per cent, Biggest out-side shareholder is Allied

Jarvis Porter, the drink labels and packaging group, is attracting attention. The shares have edged forward. closing 8p higher at 145.5p. They were 310p a year ago. Interim profits were lower pres will show some improve ment there is talk a hidder is

preparing to take advantage of JP's problems.

Donecq with nearly 5 per

Share Price Data

Proce one in sterling except where stated. The yield is last you's dividend, groused up by "30 per card, as a percentage of the share price. The price serrings (P.E.) ratio is the share price divided by last years serrings per share, excluding exceptional terms. Other details, it Ex rights is Ex-dividend is Ea at ultristed Source For Information op Party Paul pin No Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exceptions over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception over the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stock.

**The Exception of the Paul Shares it AM Stoc

The Independent Index
The rider about you to access real-time share prices by phone from Lindon Stock
Exchange Simply that 0881 23 335, and when prempted to do, so enter the 4-digit code
Stock of the code of the state of the s

Anyone with a tone-del telephone can use this service. For a detailed description

| 250,000 | 3 mart Sueri | 190,000 | 8P | 90,000 | 30 persul lichacco | 200,000 | 100,000 | 30 persul lichacco | 200,000 | 200,000 | 30 persul lichacco | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000

ESTO what

v & Sime ilds fund uger team

bend of investments Samuel Asset Manager More joining are Pal-Accolem, which is not front in augment of the London Danks of where coming that ment Bank Austriant of the world by a new role of engine at another companies at month Abbatt, complete both after seven mon-th, Rowal Rankof Sout-trick recent, Golge for the South Companies. after the mplace with the control of
Spekholike Sti David suddepersonal films of the film people wite beautiful MHS are

All constructions and the control of For share dealing without the paperwork and commissions from £2.50 call The Share Centre - 0800 800008 or view the internet www.share.co.uk Gas Distribution

Makes .

day by i retty. greeten. Marija Bar Hitter



Review plunges Philips in red

The root-and-branch review of Philips Electronics by Cor Boonstra since he became president of the world's thirdlargest electronics company last October has led to a further rise in already hefty restructuring charges, resulting in a surprise loss for the fourth quarter of 1996.

There was a mixed reaction among analysts to the additional action announced yesterday by Philips to become more competitive against its two main Far Eastern rivals -Samsung and Sony - and to two top level departures from the

management board, Some analysts believed the decision to increase restructuring charges from 1.85bn guilders to 2.57bn guilders (£835m) should yield solid benefits next year, while others doubted whether it would be enough to resolve the compa-

hounce around between 76.5 and 79.9 guilders after the announcement.

Peter Wortle, an analyst at Delta Lloyd Bank, said: "The figures were not as good as ex-pected, but not terribly disappointing. It is a good idea Philips is taking all the charges now... 1997 will probably still be tough, but in 1998 the effects of all the restructuring should start working out."

The restructuring charges of which 725m guilders related to the troubled Grundig business in Germany - culmi-

nated in the company booking added that he would be ready self out of an agreement to bear

5033 F,396 HB! E6.M

50.46 50.46 50.46

在1000年,1000

by the Dutch Philips Electronics company.
In a statement, De La Rue said that it had been working together in the UK since June 1993 with PSCS, which is located in France. A joint ven-

the year, a stark contrast to the 2.52bn guilders profit made in 1995. And before the restructuring costs, the loss in the under-performers and loss-fourtb quarter was 81m makers. "While this process is fourtb quarter was 81m guilders as almost all of Philips

businesses recorded declines. Commenting on the results and nn prospects, Mr Boonstra said 1996 was "disappointing" as sales rose just 6 per cent to 1 69.2bn guilders and costs rose faster. In 1995, sales rose

11 per cent. He said that positioning Philips for growth "cannot be Dutch electronics maker has set done by cutting alone" and aside 600m guilders to buy it-

Interest Rates

De La Rue, the UK printing and security prod-ucts group, has signed a letter of intent to buy Philips Smart Cards & Systems, which is owned

netic stripe card production and personalisation with PSCS's smart card technology.

PSCS bas almost 300 employees, and in 1996

by year-end, He reiterated his policy of

weeding out the company's

not yet complete, it is on sched-

ule, and we are rapidly dis-

posing of activities that absorb

profits, cash and management

Dudley Eustace, Philips'

chief financial officer, said

Grundig cost the company

about 1.2bn guilders in 1996, ex-

clusive of operating losses. The

the company had turnover of around 100m guilders (£32.4m). Its smart cards are used in the banking, telephony and pay television industries. Financial details of the planned deal have yet to be announced.

caused Philips' sbare price to a net loss of 590m guilders for to implement a growth strategy Grundig's losses and pay the founding family trust a yearly dividend, irrespective of re-

> Beside severing ties with Grundig since becoming president, Mr Boonstra has closed the Superclub International chain of video stores, decided to sell the cable television business and to find a partner for the multi-media business.

His strategy virtually opposes the vision of Jan Timmer, his predecessor, who yesterday resigned from Philips' supervisory board - a move that analysts construed as a protest against Mr Boonstra's actions.

Mr Boonstra, however, dismissed claims that the departure of Frank Carruba, a management board member. that was also announced yesterday was a sign of top-level discord. He has agreed to continue to work for Philips as a group ITT in the US. consultant.

Some traders in the City tried to write a ditty... adds How many words can you think of that rhyne with Durer? London International Group have leanched a new web site targeted at the finanial community, and are holding a limerick competition to elebrate. The LIG web site team

The LIG web site team have devised an on-line competition with a grand prize of a romantic weekend at Tylney Hall in Hampshire for the lucky winner.

To qualify, entrants have to invent a printable limerick using the brand names of at least two of LIG's products. These include Durex, Sheik and Rameses (condoms), Marigold (washing up gloves), and Mister Baby (health and beauty aids). There are other brands on the web site, whose address is: bttp://www.lig.com. The web site also contains

stuff about share prices and company developments. LIG already bas a Durex web site. You have until 24 March to enter your ditties via the Internet, and the winner will be announced, appropriately enough, on April Fool's Day.

Nick Hodges, chief execu-tive of LIG, says: "The success of our Durex site, which has had over 6 million hits in 12 months, has convinced us that the Net is already a very effective communications medium.

"The new corporate site is interactive, animated and will be constantly updated, enabling users to access news on the latest developments within the Group as well as a library of historic data." As for the limerick compe-

tition, the only words I can think of so far which rhyme with Durex are bex, Lex and Beck's. Good luck.

It wasn't just the England football team that had a bad time on Wednesday.

Ladbroke, which has a link with Hilton Hotels, was busy preparing a press release on the \$10bn hostile bid by Then a builder outside



Nick Hodges: LIG is targeting the financial community

Ladbroke's Watford head office drilled through the main power line and scuppered the publication.

Ladbroke's misfortunes continued into the evening, when they were hosting the launch of a new spread betting service in the City. Guest speakers included footballer Mick Channon and John Parrott, the snooker player, who were invited to give their wisdom on the England/Italy game, which was screened

live for the guests.

Predictably, the atmosphere turned a bit flat when Zola planted the ball in the back of England's union bag.

"We won't be running one of these events again in a hurry," muttered a Ladbroke spokesman afterwords. This week has marked the

return of Cameron Brown, the ex-Guinness Mahon director who steered the growth of Abaco Investments until it was bought by British & Commonwealth in 1988. Mr Brown is back in business with C&B Publishing.

Trading started on AIM last Friday. Placed at 110p the shares moved to 165p on Fri-day and then up a further 15p

on Monday. C&B Publishing is a holding company for a group launched in 1989 by Mr Brown and Mark Collins, a

scion of the Collins publishing clan, who was previously deputy chairman of Weiden-feld Publishers. 44

a burta SFR

- TEN

لهبيط عيد

_ TI I

. . .

ref j

The first

desired of

The man

TO THE STATE OF

E See WA

MITTING THE

· · · · atres 10

. L 44 SAME

Il laster

tegen or the

Bold Cup a

trained, bear at Purision and the

First Change st GWC MULT

and they are of out the sta

C. C. CH. 47742

int time barrage

at Have

in Characka Water Day

C&B's shareholders include Paul Tierney, a director of VAL Corporation, parent of United Airlines and principal of US investment house Gollust, Tierney & Oliver. They also include Tim Razzall, former chief executive of solici-tors Frere Cholmeley Bischoff and also national treasurer of the Liberal Democrats.

What have Hampton Court Palace, Wormwood Scrubs and wallpaper maker Borden Decorative Products got in common?

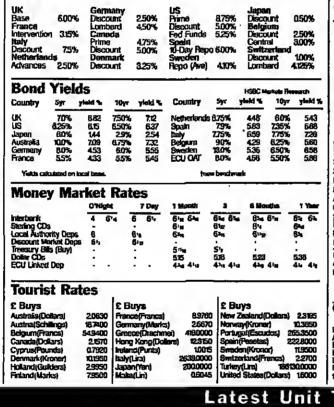
Their respective managements have all taken part in the annual Venture business game beld by the Bradford Management Centre,

The business world's equivalent of fantasy football, it relies heavily on computer models of company life. Top hods meet every fortnight over six months to muli management decisions for a virtual company. The winners this year will pick up £18,000 of Hewlett Packard equipment.

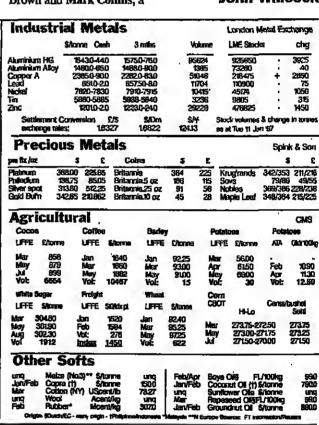
If you fancy yourself as a virtual Branson, contact. Venture Competition, University of Bradford Management Centre, tel 01274 384416.

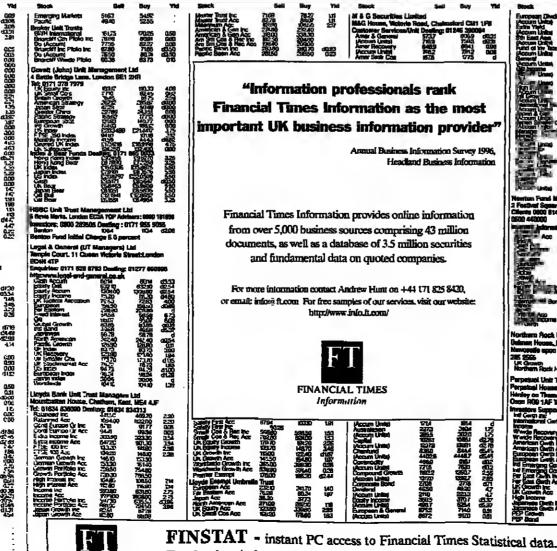
John Wilfcock

my's problems. The mixed views ture between the two combines De La Rue's mag-Foreign Exchange Rates D-Mark 16221 10-8 31-28 1000 21940 54-49 164-156 13526 217357 89-61 203-93 16877 93-92 217-198 6-0-08 55965 20929 25-40 45-67 16602 20221 95-91 281-276 2466 14067 21-18 66-61 1532 10428 22-177 65-558 6429 10428 22-177 65-558 6429 30699 82-74 240-226 18925 10264 5-1 8-70 15805 6-3 50-25 9-3-103 41-16 40-37 14-16 2-0 27-30 54-56 1-4 24-19 0.3750 3.9494 846966 4.3914 0.8611 0.7721 4.5931 1.4731 0.8522 2.2230 0.8409 5-1 160-90 5-5 220-160 85-76 10-16 93-52 0-0 64-7 0-0 10264 10808 23179 12078 23565 21331 12570 40315 23321 60836 23012 Other Spot Rates Country Sterling Country Dollar 80,8000 0,3850 40,0799 26,3580 169,700 3,6410 5653,00 4,4160 27,5600 3,673 Argenta Austra Brazil China Egypt Finland Ghana Greece India Kumail 130.782 06347 65.0336 42.7685 275.270 59042 9172.56 7.6554 44.7189 5.9606 Nigena Oman Pakistan Philippines Portugal Catar Russa South Africa Tanwan UAE rute auored low to high are at a premium: "Deliar rates quoted as reciprocals For the latest foreign exchange rates call 0891 123 3033 Calls cost 50p per minute (day rate) 45p other times



Contract		Settlement price			igh/L for de		Est	Open		
Long GM	(Mar. 3)		3-70	113-2	4 .	113-00		79410	196300	
German Gvt Bd Italien Bond	響音		3.19	1032		10306		56779 90683	248151 170626	
Japan Gwr Bd	DATE: 177	126	335	1264		126.35		238	n/a	
3 Atth Starting	(Mar 27)		170	83.7	3	9369		9687	104605	
3 Mth Euromark	5 April (1995)	96	587 588	935 968 968	9	9346 9687 9688		18120 14919 16893	118191 200062 175106	
3 Man Eurolina	100		294	929		9268		32890	90658	
3 Mith Europeri 3 Mith Europewise	Lan Sile	96	143 133	983				21579 0 8125	80755 n/a 30492	
	GAM 575	96	336	98.3	9	9832		3707	30492 32280	
3 Mith ECU	Mar (2)		193 100	959				778	10710	
FTSE 100	140		160	960 4324		9600 43070		858 10650	5872 59785	
FTSE 250	BAL 155		50	4625		4650		340	6876	
Feb Mar Apr May		46/19 46/19 18/43 4/85		109/44 77/82 50/85 30/118		196/72 105/90 79/119 55/139	12	0/88 7/104 0/127 /152	::	
Energy Brent Crude PE 530pm	(\$/barrel) *chg Yr ago		ofi (\$/\	onne)	WIL	6pm	Produc Spot Cl	stat FNW Eu	(S/tumos)	
Mar 2055	-061	Mar .	180000	-450	Mar	2190	Prem.U	nleaded	227/22	
Apr 2041	-053	Apr	17800	-375	Apr	2160	Nachth	2	228/23	
May 1890	-060	May	17625	-325	May	2130	EC Ge		163/164	
Vot: 55916	Indet: 2085	Val-		5745	Jun		Hoenv		92/94	
	maac 2005 maan day Yee					2105 CB-Lon				
Commo	dity Inc	lice							Indices	
	Base date	+800	w %	chg Day	31 1	Dec %	dly ge			
index	1970-100	1928	23	-157	25		-1042	191.26	+082	
Agnoultural	1970=100	2368		+0.19	23		+241	283.26	-16.41	
Energy	1983-100	70.6		-306			-17.71	6358	+71.12	
ndust! Metals	1977=100	178.		+101	166		+433	188.64	-665	
Livestock Precious Metals	1970=100	1879		+0.33 +1.71	483	103	-164	17958	+465	
Good as at 12 Feb		774		TUI	400	-	4.75	5H.77	-13.73	



では、 のでは、 4 1000 Construction of the


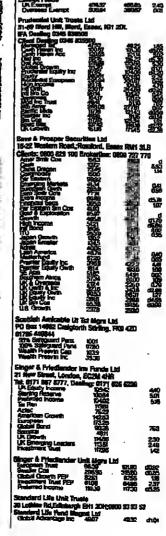
FINANCIAL TIMES

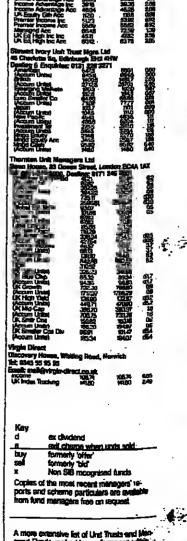


For further information, call Leeanne Gilliar at FT Information

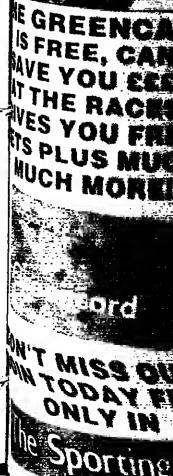
on +44 171-825-8430 or email: leeanne.gilliar@ft.com

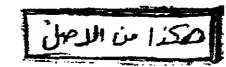






1





ENI

or the

city

'avel

M.P.

iackson

ar of

ie nuts

OUT >

onald

<u>:SS</u>

JURT

1 how

. s in the

K! LOUS

ART

d. the

18167%

, ig with

/O2

rean

Iе

what

ESTO

as had

Ohver

tu:

Pride's fall adds to Irish woe

GREG WOOD

The business end of betting on the Cheltenham Gold Cup proved surprisingly resilient yesterday in the face of disturbing news about both the favourite and second-favourite for next month's race. Imperial Call, 7-2 to retain the chasers' championship, will miss his intended prep race tomorrow and go straight to Cheltenham, but that may be a mercy if the performance of Dorans Pride in his own pre-Festival race is any guide. Michael Hourigan's chaser suffered a crashing fall at the second-last in the Kinloch Brae Chase at Thurles, but remains a 9-2 chance to win the Gold Cup in his novice season.

Dorans Pride had taken the lead seven fences from home having jumped soundly throughout yesterday's race, and turned for home five lengths clear of Merry Gale and Royal Mountbrowne, with an easy victory to match his starting price of 1-2 apparently assured. An extra stride at the penultimate fence gave Shane Broderick no chance, however, and allowed Merry Gale a narrow and fortunate success at 9-4.

Hourigan had previously expressed doubts as to whether Dorans Pride would be ready to take on the best with so little chasing experience to call on, and remained undecided after yesterday's events. "We won't be making any decision about the Gold Cup for a week or two," the trainer said. "He seems okay and I hope he is fine in the morning. Shane said he was travelling strongly when he out down again rather than came up

at the second last. "He got away with doing that at the second-last ditch at Leopardstown last time, but not here. Someone remarked to me that the sun may have cast a shadow at the second-last and distracted the horse but I am not to wishing to make what could be a silly excuse like that. They are there to be jumped and Dorans Pride

didn't manage it this time." Imperial Call, meanwhile, will miss the Red Mills Chase at Gowran Park tomorrow, and will instead head for the defence of his chasing championship boasting the sort of form which an all-m wrestler might recognise - one fall and a submission. The latter mishap was in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown, when Imperial Call appeared to be cantering on the run to the third-last fence, only to drop away without the hint of a struggle, and the results of a recent blood test imply that

he is still off-colour. His blood picture is not 100 per cent right and there is some little thing wrong," Fergie Sutherland, his trainer, said vesterday. "All he needs is to get to Cheltenbam fit, so what 1 have decided to do is send him to Thurles today and give him

a spin after racing. Again, however, Sutherland's plans were frustrated. A miscalculation over race-times -- the trainer thought that racing started an hour and 40 minutes be-

able to

i the

re on

vice and

Imperial Call would have been galloping in the evening gloom, and the trainer decided to keep the horse at home.

Some might say that with less than four weeks to go to the Gold Cup, a "little thing wrong" is a contradiction in terms, and Imperial Call's blood count might conceivably indicate an infection to come rather than. as Sutherland seems to believe, one on the wane. In short, it seems most unlikely that his Gold Cup odds will shrink appreciably between now and race-day, so bets are best postponed until the exact situation becomes clear.

After all, the speed with which ante-post vouchers can be devalued was clearly demonstrated yesterday when Dato Star, a 14-1 chance, was ruled out of this year's Champion Hurdle, and quite possibly the 1998 renewal as well, with a ligament problem.

"He was scanned this morning and he has got a slight sus-pensory strain," Malcolm Jefferson, his trainer, said. He will be out for the rest of the season and we won't hurry him back as time is the greatest of all healers. It is a big blow for

the lads and the vard. The only certainty about this latest Festival scratching is that,

RICHARD EDMONDSON **NAP: Certainly Strong** (Sandown 2.00) NB: Dextra Dove

(Sandown 3.45)

as training programmes pass the point of no return, it will not be the last. Next Thursday, it will be the turn of Coome Hill's supporters to wait anxiously for news as the (Newbury) Hennessy winner prepares for the Gold Cup in the Jim Ford

Chase at Wincanton. Walter Dennis, Coome Hill's trainer, has chosen this race in preference to both the Racing Post Chase at Kempton and the Greenalls Grand National Trial at Haydock. "Hopefuly they've had the rain there that we've had and that's where

we're aiming," he said yesterday.

From Dennis's Cornwall yard, Wincanton will seem like a quick sanot around the corner but the arrangements will be rather more costly when Master Oats leaves Kim Bailey's yard to travel to the Ericsson Grand National Trial at Punchestown on Sunday. Bailey had planned to share the expense with Charlie Brooks. whose Suny Bay was expected to contest the same event, but Suny Bay's withdrawal has forced the trainer to opt for a £12,000 air ticket instead. For that sort of money, you can only hope that Master Oats will enjoy free peanuts and not towels

CRELITEMHAM GOLD CUP (13 March). Williams Bitt: 7-2 inspector Call. 9-2 Corans Price, 7-1 Denote, 8-1 Coome Hill & Datata Pyer, 9-1 One Man, 14-1 Addingson Boy & Mr Mulligan, 16-1 The Gray Morte, 20-1 ber, Corast 4-1 Imperial Call, 5-1 Docans Price, 6-1 Coome Hill & Denote, 8-1 Duttin Pyer, 10-1 One Man, 12-1 The Gary Morte, 14-1 Addingson Boy, 16-1 Banjo, 20-1 ber, Ladweitens: 7-2 Impesal Call, 4-1 Docans Price, 5-1 Denote, 8-1 Duttin Pyer, 8-1 Coome Hill & One Man (14-1) Duttin Pyer, 8-1 Coome Hill & Duttin P

for the duration of the flight.

SANDOWN

L30 QUEEN OF SPADES (nap) 2.00 Certainly Strong (mb) 2.35 The Captain's Wish 3.10 Dantes Cavaller

3.45 Denver Bay 4.15 Pedaltothemetal 4.50 Shebang

حكمة من الاعل

GOING: Chases - Good: Hardies - Good to Soft (Good or places).

Engin-hard rours: seven testing feners along back straggs, nar-in of 30thd.

ECourse is on ANT, Im work of kingston. Eaber tall station service from London, Waterlool adjoins course. ADMISSRON: Chab \$16, Junior Clab \$16 - 25grs) \$13; Grandstand & Padjoick \$10 (\$) for extr 15c and NIS members); Park \$4, CAR PARK; \$2 in

RELEASED STRUCTURES WITH RUNNERS: J Gifford — 21 winners from 182 runners gives resources made of \$1.9% and a leas to a \$1 level state of \$14.46; M Pige — 10 winners, 60 runners, 16.7%, -51.2%; O Sherwood — 9 winners, 44 runners, 20.5%, -52.2%; J OM — 8 winners, 144 runners, 23.5%, -4.65.00 winners, 87 rides, 30.5%, -4.80 41, A Magnire — 20 winners, 80 rides, 21.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.7%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.4%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 106 rides, 15.4%, -4.14.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16.1%, -4.65.20; J Onhorsto — 16 winners, 16 rides, 16 rid

WINDIESS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Minter Oddy (200) was at Newbory on Penhy LONG-DESTANCE SUNNESS: Lord Durent (2,00) has been sent 303 pales by J 1A Charl-ton from Sucksield, Northemberland; Express GRY (4,15) sent 303 miles by Mrs M Revely-tons Loresho Chamistra

130 FOK NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,035 417-122 Queste of Swords (ring by list) filter Planetty Vallace £3,035
417-122 Queste of Swords (ring by list) filter Planetty To American 7 11 # ... C Disvellys
51-21 SPLENDED STATE (20) gip (list) filter Occupy 5 12 4 R Disservely
0 SECHERO (57) (list See Protect I Soling 5 11 0 Helde
0 GWALLE Extended (69) (Protecting 4 Buile 5 11 0 M Planete
00-34 DAME ORCHARD (23) 17 Georg Limited W Mar 6 11 0 M Planete
10-34 DAME ORCHARD (23) 17 Georg Limited W Mar 6 11 0 M Planete
13-01-65 Liberty Macron Carbon - N Hersterion 8 11 0 M Planete
13-01-65 Liberty Macron Carbon - N Hersterion 8 11 0 Devot Note
13-01-65 Liberty Micron (18) Security His M Joris 6 11 0 Devot Note
13-01-65 Liberty Micron (18) Security His M Joris 6 11 0 J Galerine
10 HISTY MESON (6) (R-m me Privace) Oct 8 11 0 M Heldel
10 2 TOMER STREET (80) Micros Justican Booteteck List) J Gifted 6 11 0 L Appel (3)
10 (2300 JARDARD (23) J Rosy of the site Ms C 4 Received 10 therefor Dame 5 10 8 3 Proved

unboster Marsino at Heydook and Hich Warmpr at Heedony. The Strong Gate mats bas a 73-day absence to crecome but site is likely to be except a coupt. Spreadful Toyane, the only other winner in the field, got the better of a down bettle with Sursum Cords by a tength and a quarter at Lingbled last month, having previously finished a sen-heigh number up to the excha similar Boundoom Shuffle wins hacked up on his harding how at followations. Lively Escosieties scored in good style at Towceeler in December but has been unplaced in both has snot ancecting less to me when a 22-length fifth to Splentist Toyare at Lingbled. Towers Street straped externely well on his single start so fair in glong down twee and a half singlist between the processing of Species tough-sett met.

2.00 SABRINA GOODWILT LOVE TOU ALMAYS TRANSACTOR (CLASS B) £9,500 added 2m Penalty Value £6,301 ABRINA GOODWILL 1 LOVE YOU ALWAYS' HANDICAP CHASE

- 4 declared SETTERS: 4-6 Carbaloly Strong, S-4 Lend Dorrest, 7-2 Micher Didy, 10-1 Thereis Up
1998: Southempton 8 10 0 4 P McCo; 7-1 % Bailing 5 mn
PORM GUIDE
An expressing clash here between Queen Mother Champion Chase outsides Lord Dorrest
and CEPCARNLY STRONG, preference being for the latter, who is also a Grand Annual entry, Lord Dorrest did well as a nowce in 1995-96, challing up a four-timer, including withness at Ascot and at this brack. An early casualty here in December after running therd to

Konselca kurg at Cheftenham on his refurn, he again took the minor placing in time there's race at helpo and pame good again act, a length and a-half Doncader success from were seen as. However, the nonthern chavenger is up 60, putting him on 12st, amenas Cartachi Strong, ofter more than a year off because of a fractured common tone, won have come and distance has weeks ago on her return when 50 wrong in the angles and shouldining 300 overweight and is effectively now a pound ower. Melawir Oodly, a sound composite the warrang record over the years, has been in good form with a couple of wire and a second in between from these attempts, this form, 8th, with a 50 perially for last weeks Messour's Motory - Taxanias Up fourth and held - he gets only a pound from Cartachi, Strong and that doesn't seem enough.

235 BADGER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,420

- 7 depleted - - 7 depleted - 11-4 Shapeley, 4-1 The Coptoin's Week, 6-1 Shings, 36-1 Sellagibles, 34-1 Coden Sover 9 11 3 4 PMs(o) 5 1 A Handwison 9 for

1994: Coolen Spring 9 13 3 4 P No.Co; 5 1 , N renderson 9 ten
PORRI GUIDE
STRIPBLY, placed on his first two choises, is on a hat trick following a couple of Leiderson wins
and, although he hapin't bedien much, probably hasin't health depending at E. E. on 30. ARPER MOLE might prove too strong so the heli getting 3to. My selection, a helf brother to
Mole Board, was not only having his first rater since last don't but also misleng he fencing
debut when anoutdering top seight to viction; in handscap company, at favoreous and
weeks ago. He tools sufre to get better sell and will be suited by the longer deserve and
the self track. Best of the cerean regist be fencing debutant The Coephialts Wilsel, whe war
over britter at Bengar less, term and has been running well without wrining the season.
Selection ARPER MOLE

3.10 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 2m Of Penalty Value £3,618

SINGS (Ver Scale 9 13 5 O Burrous S-1 to Pips. 15 and
DANITES CAVMALES) found the exceeded bus mines been when well bestern all Linghold
Est bring, estimage he wouldn't have had any chance with the winner. Sociations Shuffer,
in any case. Deard Sentition's seven-year-old had looked a leafer increase when length enter the code at Folkestone before that, deflating subsequent screen looked had a tempth. The pertent lengths clear. Dentes Classies Finished runner-up in both presents statis, while he are
ent a couple of burrigers in 1995-96. With this testing two and these-quarter mass hash to
prove steel, he can region be first appearance in transcap company a winning one filterbuglious stock form over looky's trap at Wercarton in November and it could pay to wendoor.
his sobsequent deplay when featurate and only an 18-length such to Galetiacor Janie over
the same course and cleasons 11 days later as the rare probably came too soon thesele-8
was successful, over this journey at Newton Abbol in October and cover the extended threemills at Tauriton next time and shouldn't be far away off bottom weight and with horman
Withermon on board.

3.45 STAG HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £9,500 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £6,470

Pigg, 11-1 States Abbay 1888: Arthur's Managel 9 11 2 R Johnson 24-1 (D Nicholson) 9 ran

DESCRIPTIONS Ages There you (These version) ones source and included googs of amount in DESTINA DENIETA Agia Destrout Charge versito Ones sour et and instance destinis attenual lus mant because one atte 3 % for hand comparine are that was the comparine obtainer from them. Set, Some Land to give can cellant, prim and, and not a set to best time force, entered attenue, entered the term to the term that having presented, and of hermation. Sequence Embeds and Elizabe and Elizabe, who best to them to them, and entered for the force distincted had they are the expectating after an absence of TOC closes and Alim days, respectively, and less of futions registed to the one to follow the action that a statement of TOC closes and Alim days, who expends had less of futions registed to the one to follow the action that the last action, feel on the interpretation force and the Section of the handson here that a statement of the first of the handson here that all a statements are the section of the handson here that a statement of the handson here than the section of the handson here than the section of the handson here than the section of the handson that the same close that the handson here than the section of the handson that the same close that the handson here than the section of the handson that the same close that the handson here than the same close that the handson here than the same close that the handson here that the same close that the handson here than the same close that the handson here than the same close that the handson here that the same close that the handson here the handson that the same close that the handson here than the same close that the same close that the handson here than the same close that the same close than the same close that the same close t

4.15 CAU & MOUSE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added

70: 300 CONCRESION 125 (St. M. HOW), IN LOCAL District Str. M. Hower, S.11 10 C MARK OF SOME TO TRANSPORT OF MERCY STATE OF THE STATE O 1 59722 SPORTY VALLY (\$1) (\$1) Tay & Parries School (\$15) | I lender (\$15).

5 32-12-5 PERMINDEDICTAL SSn 1-2-mar P-M1-ray 5-10-7. B Termey
- S declared SCITTURE: 1-2 Express CRI, 7-2 Stoney Velley, 13-1 Cancer King, 16-1 Cance Of Sung, Pedminsthornalsi, 38-1 Made Stones.

PORCE COMP.

PORCE COMP.

PORCE COMP.

EXPRESS COMP is great , "secure (in the rate conditions and carmet be opposed." Many Retering a runner, the mount of factoring to mounty have a conditions and carmet in the security above the first and party burgs and early to the less than a first and security as frequents and their Bank to factoring and their Bank to the return as frequents and their Bank to the return as frequents and their bank to the return and their security after any party where any particular to the factoring and the factoring the security and the

4.50 OFTER STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HART FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 110yds Penelty Value £1,448 5 SMACHE PRINTED AND ACCOUNT A VALUE OF THE ACCOUNT 銀銭銀貨 (1) はない かんかん かんかん かいばか ラブラー

1900 Hamome Lame (2012) All All All Services (2014)

FORM OUNDE Down Lander. Now with the CVL and trained by Orient (trained when writing, by cody to a for date of a field of 21 of Municipal and Ryn. The short of good in form and be should be trained as feed of 21 of Municipal and Ryn. The short of good in form and be should be trained as feed of 21 of Municipal and Ryn. The short of Statement's ENTRE CRUMPHING. Although going off at 20 of 2007. Cramples can set when a creativable that of 14 to Pound or his structuration of Netterlate. Delicates, Stated upon all but four fungies and fulfile Contrained to State of the Contrained State of the State of the State of State of the State of the State of the State of State of the State o or in a bound to progress. Share Perty disappointed which tempths for this shall there is no transfer the party of the progress of the progres

BEENHAM: \$

1.45 Sousse 2.20 Good For A Laugh 2.55 Clinton 3,30 Flippance 4.05 Cab On Target 4.40 **Kintavi**

GUINEC GOOD.

El Leit-hard course. Rum-in of 200yd.

Course is S of town off B1146, ADMISSION: Members \$10;
Grandstand & Paddock \$5 (arcompanied under-10s free all en-ployment. CAR PARK: Members 50; remainder free.

WINDERED PHEST TIME; None,
WINDERED PHEST TIME; None,
WINDERES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS; None,
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; Good For A Laugh (2.20) & Sharrows Bay (3.30) have been sent 314 miles by A Hobis from Kingslettles. Denom.

1.45 SHERINGHAM SELLING HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS G) £4,000 added 2m POC-000 MAGGERIA (8-4) (20) J Possos 9 11 20 N Massi 5-0265 CAPTAIN MARKALADE (435) D Tiom 8 11 7 N Massis 1569 STONE SELAND (246 J Whyte 4 11 4 Mr R Waldley (7) 000 SOUISSE (28) Mas M Revely 4 11 4 P News

7 00-6003 DR DAVE PJ P Chemings 8 11 1 ______ B Feedon 8 06-4240 MORDOY'S WHICH CROST L Workington 8 11 1 _____ C Rose (7) 9 P62-840 P000000 Iousiant (125) C Jones 7 10 12 ____ A Nationary 0 600002 RUMPS GAMERIE DIS (00) Miss Lievel 9 10 1 ___ D Louby Y 11 PP-0P00 JUST A REAU (11) Miss Lievel 6 20 0 ______ D Gallegher ~ 11 declared ~
Alinhum weight: 10st Inn handicap weight: Aus A Bear Sci 120, BETTHE: 5-2 Sousse, 5-1 Emerald Venture, 6-1 Captain Harmalad near Villa, 7-1 Dr Dave, 6-1 Rusti's Gambia, 12-1 others

2.20 PRINCE CARLTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £6,000 added 3m 110yds 1 22421-P ARTIC WINES (15) (C) (D) (SF) O Brenton 9 12 0...

62436P GLEN MIRAGE (14) (CD) M Coomba 12 11 4... /28/PUP CALL ME EARLY (10) Mass J Coom 12 12 3 ... J Lawrence P30032 BOOD FOR 4 LABER (18) 4 Hoods 13 10 10 ... SOOF52 WICKE WORDER (70) M Strotage, 7 10 7 — P Makey
40-P4P4 WICKERY GATE (USA) (11) Mrs. Level 12 10 0 _D Gallaghar
PPUP-50 SOUNDS GOLDEN (20) 1 Whyte 9 10 0 _ Mir R Windey (7)
= 10 declared =
ribuus beignt: 20sz. Tive handlan wegints Witney Gate 9st 80, Sounds GottOne 200

2.55 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 4f CO-30 APRIL SEMENTH (20) I Newer 6 12 C W Marrion 1-55 AFFICE TREATMENT (25) IT COMMENTS STATE OF THE STATE

- 8 ductored -BETTING: 8-4 Peace Lord, 7-4 Clinton, 6-1 April Seventh, 10-1 Arctic In-temple, 12-1 Super Rapler, The Lady Captain, 20-1 others

3.30 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICE CHASE (QUAL-IFIER) (CLASS D) £5,100 3m 110yds 42355P JOKER JACK (99) R Deen 12 10 10

__ Describe (3) 6#2-0 ROCLESTON BLADE (18) J Best 10:10:10.... Mr P O'Keeply (7)

Lane, Sharrow Boy, 16-1 John box, 25-1 Jahrenbee

4.05 WALTER WALES MEMORIAL HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £3,500 2m 5f 110yde (A) ARRES (1.00.5) 5 (2.0.4) 5 (2.0.5) 5 (2.0.

CANALS FORAL (BAS) (COS D B., wm 11 11 10 | Mr A Reboot (Th S 14.79) |

4.40 CROMER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m

Win norm weight 20st. True handcar weight 4430 Ost Gt. activitiency, 20-1 Ajder, 33-1 Irish Emerald

STATES AND STATES

2.10 El Nido 2.45 Joseph's Wine 3.20 Benti-co 3.55 Anita's Contessa 4.25 Forzair 5.00 Mutahadeth

ADVANTAGE: Low usually best for 6f to 7f. TALLS: inside all races.

Fibresand surface: left-band sharp, oval course.

Baccoourse is 3 miles south-east of town and 5 miles west of Newark at Bolleston. Rolleston Impetion railway station adjoins the course. ADMISSION: Cub. 512; Tetterrails 56 (OAP mom-bers of course's Diamond Club 54, accompanied under-16s free).

SIST STATE

BURNERRED FIRST TIME: World Without End (2.10). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Mutahadeth (5.00) won here on Fralay.

LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Assiza's Contessa (3.55) has been sent 180 miles by 6 Palling from Ystradowen, South Giamorpun.

2.10 LAXTON HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS F) £3,375 added 2m

1 154134 19. MIDO (4) (CO) O Crepmen 9 10 4 (And. (DD-322 MASTER POCKEROWER (7) (CD) W Masson 9 9 1 3 302-165 PARRIETE (10) (3) P Hestern 5 9 0 P Booke (7) 4 446004 LA MENORQUEA (131) (20) 0 Meris 7 8 13 ... S Sanders 8 5 00-313 MUNASMATTYRA (818, (31) (6)) Prices 18 10 ... D Hackson R 5 50040 P MARCH (13) M Carecto 4 6 7 ... Characte R 7 0011/ WORLD WITHOUT END (1,212) M Soversby 8 8 4 ... P Passey (5) R R 6 530000- SeryBERGE (104) | Bottoriey 4 8 4 M Grids 2 025 030 MAPENSO (2) | Cultura 8 8 1 ... | Quick 1 ... | Quick 1 ... | R declared - BETTENS; 13:4 Manter Fracturelar, 4-1 Rinsusstyre Sirt, 8-1 Pachille, 8-1 El Mide, 8-1 Le Manceuriane, Flactor 10 ...

2.45 HARDWICK CLAMING STAKES (CLASS F)

2.3, 300 200090 1331

1 05115-0 ABSOLUTE MARIE (42) (0) (85) W Heggs 7 9 7 W Rym 1

2 05105-1 JOSEPHS WARE (32) Q (85) D Nichols 5 9 7 Me Grouws 2 8

3 0-51212 RAMBO WALTZER (4) (CD) (87) D Nichols 5 9 1 Me Grouws 2 8

4 06 1051 N THE POST (7) C Roman 48 13 Deen Michaeu 12

5 00400 WHODERSELLISHWAY (240) J Bony 4 8 13 C Londor (7) 5

6 000-006 MORTHERN (NM (4) 43) R Trivet 5 8 9 S S Withmark 8

7 32100 1 SANNE (42) (C) (D) M Carrierto 5 8 9 S Owners 14

8 1460-00 WARBLEST (25) (CD) O Nichols 8 7 Dendy Bales (7) 4

9 551/000 MARIE (42) (C) (D) W Carrierto 5 8 9 Na Lappe 10 (C) Nichols 8 7 Dendy Bales (7) 4

- 14 decimed -BETING: 5-2 Joseph's Whee, 4-1 Rambo Weltzer, 8-1 Abov 8-1 Sernel, 10-1 Whothehelisherry, Warterst, 12-1 others

3.20 RAINWORTH HANDICAP (CLASS D)

...DR McCaba 03250-4 BERTICO (4) (CD) Me N Meculoy 6 9 8 C Toegre (1) 6 V 243306 DESERT INVADER (4) (CD) 0 Chapman 6 9 2 A Calhana 8 0254-21 SEA SPOUSE (14) (CD) M Benstard 6 9 1 N Admin 7

- 10 declared BETTING: 3-1 Sen Sponse, 7-2 live Project, 5-1 Le Sport, 6-1 State O Cardion, 7-1 Wegichip Roy, 8-1 Bentico, Golf Shead, 12-1 others

3.55 KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD FILLIES HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 6f 1 000000- ANTONIAS MELODY (57) (D) S R Bowing 4 10 0 14012-6 MARJONE ROSE (41) (D) (BF) 4 Bair, 49 13 __ D Wright

9 512000- CARNINGL OF LIGHT (71) (C) 15 Moore 5 7 10 ... M Adams BETTENS: 3-1 Anita's Contessa, 7-2 Marjorie Rose, 5-1 Ballacio, 6-1 Del

4.25 MAPLEBECK SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,000 added 1m 4f

-5 deci RETTING: 8-4 Fozzak: 3-1 Simtlecock, 7-2 Sharp Gazzalle, 4-1 Another 5.00 GRTON HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 1m 3f

6-64603 STATE OF COLD (1/9 | Herberton 8 10 5 Whi 00-006 BUZZEY BASE (US) 4 Foster 8 4 T Se

- 7 declared -BETTORE: 8-4 Metabackets, 7-2 Stellen Sovereige, 4-1 State Of Gold, 6-1 Mass Delon, 8-1 Buzzby Robe, Apiculets, 10-1 Rooing Carr RACING RESULTS NEWCASTLE

2.05 Danbys Gorse 2.40 Coqui Lane 3.15 Alzulu 3.50 Regal Romper 4.20 Crown Equerry 4.50 Jack Robbo

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places). Eleft-hand, oval course, was rising from it.: Lough, galloping track. Recognized is on A1, Jan booth of users. Meter weaver to Four Lane Ends stanon from Newcastle radium statum, Special has service from there. ADMISSION: Club 512, Tattersal's 54 (OAPs.

and registered databled \$7); Salver Ding \$1 (CIAPs and registered disabled \$23. CAR PARK: Free. BLEVERRED FIRST TIME: Potato Man (risered, 3 34); VINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Le Denstan (J 10) Jungle Fresh (3.15) & Allform (4.55) have been sent (3.2 nules by Mrs D Thomson from Milnathort, Taysuk. 2.05 NORTHERN RACING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m

7 1656-06 ALL CLERK (20) (D) 14 kPress 5 12 8 Colleges (3) 8 531-50 SECONDAY SARRA (21) Mrs M Receip 8 17 2 6 Lee (2) 8 EXTURE: \$-2 Reed Sable, 3-1 Samuel, 4-1 Dealoys Series, 5-1 Electric, 7-1 Center, 8-1 Fax Sparrey, 12-1 others

2.40 BORDER MINSTREL SUNDAY LUNCH NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added

- 9 declared - S. Tanak - Transit - S. Tanak - Tan

3.15 HENNESSY COGNAC SPECIAL SERIES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS B) £8,000

3.50 NEW CHAMPAGNE & SEAFOOD RESTAU-£5,000 added 2m 110vds

113321 REGAL ROMPER (10) (D) Mrs 5 Smch 9 12 0

2 3.1%4 DUAL MADE (8) (0) (8) J Factorist 10 11 5 ... Pathord Genet.
5 11 6-79 PORTO MAR (27) 8 Pison 11 10 11 ... A Dobba V
4 2.1 127 MODRAGE PORTE (10) 1 Jazor 7 10 6 M Mobile V
5 637% RESEL KING (20) (0) M Borros 7 10 4 S Stuty
– 5 Acciored –
BETUNG 5-4 Rogal Respec, 2-1 Dual house, 6-1 Mountle Focts, 8-1 Rebal (log, 20-1 Potato Man

4.20 ST MODWEN NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D)

5-66-16 MAJORITY MAJOR of KIDI P Cheestrough 8 11 3. 235 3 42 ARK ME LATER (IS 105 S Bracketty 5 12 4 M Foster

4.55 BE MY VALENTINE STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m MAJOR HAGE ATT SPINGING \$1 4 NOVAL CHIP PAS V MARCH 5 11 4 ... | Display | Disp R Berns (7) CENEROUS STREAK (FIG (13) / hynyr 4 1016 L College . JO LIGHTHANG (27) 8 Fasts 4 10 8 MECHANICRA BOY M' Name 4 10 R ... SUPRIME SENSATION (13) R McDarem 4 10 H. ONE STOP (10) M' Revies 4 10 3 POLITICAL MANDATE R Mean 4 10 1

The Sporting Life

Greencard

THE GREENCARD

IS FREE, CAN

SAVE YOU £££s

AT THE RACES.

GIVES YOU FREE

BETS PLUS MUCH,

MUCH MORE!

DON'T MISS OUT! JOIN TODAY FREE **ONLY IN**

The Sporting Life

1.50: 1. COVER POINT (P. Cotemp) 4-7 tar; 2. Steeling Home 9-2; 3. Affect 50-1. 7 van. 5. dot. U Profession. Tober 51.30; 51.10, 51. 70. OF. 52.20. CSF: 53.16. 2.20: 1. SDC GLERICS (P. Cotemp) 4-9 inc. 2. Transft, 7-1; 3. Diddy Rymer 12-1. 13 res. 25, 7. U Profession. Total: Cl. 40; 51.30, 51.30, 51.40; DF: 52.20. CSF: 54.20. Tot. 51.3.90, 2. No. 1, COLD PROSON (S. SONS) 16-1. 2.55: 1. GOLD PIGEON (8 Storey) 14-1; 2. Tieo Gold 5-4 f. far; 3. Sparrow Hell 6-4, f-fat 5 mm. 5, 18. (8 ROOMed), Foote £13.10; £3.60, £1.10, DF: £9.30, CSP: £34.12; 3.30: 1. MEADOW HAM P Carb renetar, 2. Claver Boy 1-1:2. Effott's V every fax 2. Clayer Vey 1: 12. Effects Well, 20.1. 15 ren. 2. det. U Posseyet), Total 51.80; 51.80, 51.10, 52.80. DF; 52.60. CSP 67.41. Tet: £35.60. 4.05; 1. WERVER GEORGE (M Mickey) 11.8 fax; 2. Aljadeer 33-8; 3. Bleading Teal 11.4, 3 rat. 2, 23. (W Storey), Total 51.90, DF; 51.60. CSP; 53.50. Ver; Cash

Supreme. 4.35: 1. ENCHANTED COTTAGE (E. Calegian) 5-1: 2. Pikington 8-1: 3. Piyap Satelite 4-1 to., 10 vm. Hd. %. U M Jelfmont. Tota (5.65: 3.20, £1.20, £1.20, £1.20, £1.70. Dr. £38.50, CSP. £43.25. Treat: £164.68.

LINGFIELD

1.65: 1. HATTAFFR (Mas. L. Sheen) 5-2
fac; 2. Calendolo 3-1; 3. Cleany Chief 12-1.
8 rac. 1, 7. (Mas. 6 Sanders), Tota: £3, 70;
£2.10, £1.30, £4.60, DF. £10.00, CSF:
£9.14. Tricase: £19.29,
2.5: 1. MATTHANS MYSTIQUE (S. Sanders),
6-4 g. tay, 2. Old Hash Wing 14-1; 3. Wegally Years 6-4 g. tay, 7 rac. 3, ni. (Mas. 8
Sanders), Tetae £2.30; £1.30, £2.00, DF.
£11.710, CSF: £24.34,
3.00: 1. SINAF (A Carlo, 7-1; 2. Squire
Centra 6-1; 2. Square 12-1, 13 rac., 9-2
fav Sat Tester: %, %, (J Carl., Totae £10.60;
£3.00, £4.10, £5.00, DF. £71.20, CSF:
£25.61, Tross: £59.17, Tro: £368.20, MR.

Alac.
3.35: 1. PUZZLEWENT (D Hotand) 11-2; 3.36; 1. PUZZLEMENT (D Holland) 11-2; 2. Swift; 11-1:3. Hist Of Victory 6.4 rm. 11:10 for Pastiche 44th, 37:, 2; C Britani, Totar 55:10. DF: £29.40. CSF: £39.11. 4.10; 1. SHALSTANHOUY S Witmoothy 11:10 for; 2. Shar's Deumán 11-4; 3. Juliar's Relative 5-1: 6 rm. 5, 37; (G 1 Moorn). 4.40; 1. RABINES U Farreng 1-2; 2. Run-dom Kindosen 8-15 for; 3. Nappy Mechan 9-1: 4 rm. 1, 11:, Whitmooth 7 Deuts £5:20. DF: £3.50. CSF: £5.91. Planospot 52.871.70. Quadquot £488.10-deut win. Pool of £396.12 corned forward. Plane 6; £820.14, Plane 8: £483.84.

SANDOWN

2.00: 1. APTURH (FORCING)

2.50: 1. APTURH (FORCING)

2.50: 1. HANNARAN SAM (G. COTR)

2.11: 2. Taken The Buckside 15-8. 4 ram (2 finished), 7-4 for View Word, unseared ndc1,

18. (A Turnell, Warriage), Toter (3.20, DF,

2.10: 1. DOGTOOR (D Watsh) 11-8 for,

2. Royal Event 100-30; 2. Can Can Charlie 11-4, 5 ram, 5, 30, (M Proc, Wellington),

Toter (2.30) (2.20, D. 1.40, DF, (2.80, CSF,

2.518. MR Forcests,

3.46: 1. TOO PUIRSH (I, Harves) 6-1; 2.

No Pain No Gain 3-1. 4 am (2 finished),

3-11 av Garnicuph fiell, 2%, A Jurnel, Warriagel, Toter (58,20, DF, 28,40, CSF, C20,07,

4.15: 1. MR BOSTON IN'S Saucest 13-8 (for, 2 Howaryseam 9-2; 2, Wild finesion 13-8 (for, 6 ram, 6, %, Mars M Roveley, Sathorn), Toter (2.20; E1,40, E2,20), DF,

25.00, CSF, (59,24, NR Tutter Fable,

4.50: 1. LOUGH TULLY (J OSDOTRI 6-1;

2. Lord Realizes 14-1; 2, Physical Fun 9-2

3.1 ram, 2-1 fax Allow 15th, 8, 1, 16 Lorden, Lordenstry, Toter (8.90; E1,90, L4.70, E2,30, DF, E31,00, CSF, (79,47, Inchest, 2379,15, 7 for 281,30, NRS; Equally Derival, Margeloy, Pamele Racker, Torth Wert,

Places of E205,58, Place S; £174,62.

LAC: 1. BREAK THE BULES IS Supple) 13-8 for 2. Devon Possent 5-2, 3. Kin-necosh 14-1, 53 res. 3-2, 2-3, M Poc. Webrigion). Tota: £2.60; £1.60, £1.40, £1.90, 07: £4.60, CSF: £5.36, Tre: £10.20.

11.90. OF: £4.80. CSF: £5.36. Ther £10 CV. NR: Kings Witness.
2.10: 1. DISSOLVE (Mr.L. Baker 13: 1: 2. DYNam 3: 1 for; 2. Proud Image 5: 1: 4. Steer Point 20: 1 16 ran, Ns. 4 in Lampard, Marthonough, Tobe: £65 60: £6.90. £1.70. £2.10. £5.20. DF: £123.60. CSF: £124.69. These tisty in Lampard, Marthonough, Tober £691.10. After a team of income in the control of the fior a stematis' inquiry, placings unals: 2.48: 1. MESTER DRUM (W Mastor) 1. tav; 2. Garcelo 5-4; 2. Logicy Eddie 10-1, 10 ran. 5, 2%. (M Wilanson, Banbury). Tobs: £2.00; £1.40, £1.30, £1.40, DF: £1.80, CSF: £2.60, Trop. £3.50. 3.20: 1 MAID BOUAL IG Supply 9-4 tax:

7 mm. 1. 4. J Od. Wrong ton! Total F4.10: £2.30. £1.90 0F: £4.00 GSF £5.87. To case £17.00. NR Boylend Jeologia Not won. Pag. of £12.757.54 car-Jacobjeth Net win. Pool of \$12,75:54 cm-red forward to Newstate toda. 4,86: 1 TRISTRANTS MARIE (MATERIAL act 2-1 2c. 2. Welton America 6-1; 2. Ofter And Tatle 94: 14 res. 1. 7. N. Herschman, Lembours. Totar (2-40; 61,90, 61,70, 52.20 DF 59.20 CSF 512,92. Inc 60.90. Place 8: 613,03. Place 5; 69,34.

4.25: 1. JEFFERGES .C (Jene 5/10) 5-2: :

* THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES LIVE COMMENTARIES INTINE NEWCASTLE 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS 4-ja marcham, Shrimaniter from TLL pic, Scopins St 1624 &

£85.61 Tricost: £639.17. Tric: £368.20. NR:

3.20: 1. MAD BOUAL (S. Supplet 9-4 to: 2. Apaches Flower 15-1; 3. Flow Do Tal 16-1: 15 sm. 12; 17. (M Proc. Wettrgen: Febr. £2.80: £1.90, £1.80, £1.20 Dr. £55.30. CSF: £33.80. Talast: £445.85 Inc £220.60. NR: First Crack.
3.56: 1. NR: PICOPOCHET UF Toley: 21-4 tol. 2. Dehmilow Lodge 12-1: 3. Jef-breaker 12-1: 12 res. 4. 6. (Nast H Negl.), Wartagel: Tole £3.10: £1.80. £4.00.

Franke Dettori performed his fly-ing dismount after winning the Sheikh Maktoum Challenge over a mile at Nad Al Sheba. Dubui, last night abourd the Saeed bin Surevir trained Kamintaria. Detteri's intended mount, Hammerteem, was withdrawn Kammiarra. Lammiarra shall-brother, won by tour lengths in a course record time. But Smoot's other ramer, Kassbaan, in-shed four lengths back in second, partnered by John Cartoll, Mark John-ston's Gothenberg, ridden by Jason Wester, weakened mio iconh.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Arch tactician relishes battle of wits with former Bath cohort tomorrow. Chris Hewett reports

Ashton puts mischief on Irish agenda

lrish: .gby has heeo before Brian arrived we had 15 saddled with all man-different back-row moves and ner of knee-jerk descriptions down the years. On a good day, it is always passionate, fierce or frenzied; on a bad day, of which there bave been rather more, the vogue words range from naive and primitive to downright

Few, however, have accused the Irish of over-complication. When Ciaran Fitzgerald launched his spell of captaincy in the early 1980s by bolding up a ball and telling his squad: "This, fellas, is what it's all about," a colleague allegedly cried out: "Hold on there, skip. You're going too fast for us.'

Under the circumstances, then, it comes as something of a shock to be told that Brian Ashton's priority on agreeing to join the Irish as coaching adviser was to simplify their entire approach to the international game. A certain Mr Fitzgerald might he surprised to hear that in Ashton's view, there was too much of the Einstein about his new charges and not enough of

the Murphy.
"Don't laugh, but he took us hack down to basics," says David Corkery, the bruisingly hard blind-side flanker who did as much as any Irishman to nip the latest Welsh renaissance in the bud in Cardiff a week ago last Saturday and, in the

different back-row moves and so many line-out calls that you could only calculate them in multiples of 10. Now we have three or four of each. He just walked in, introduced himself and cut everything hack by about two-thirds.

"It's made a big difference, definitely. It stands to reason that the fewer set moves and calls you go on to the field with the easier it is to know exactly what you're meant to be doing in any given situation. I've been very impressed with the clarity of Brian's approach; he's easy to get on with, but there are

Before taking up a full-time coaching post at Bath last summer. Ashton spent long enough as a schonlmaster to conclude that the best communicators are those who carry their learning lightly. There is no earthly point in knowing everything about a subject, be it astro-physics or rugby anion, if your students end up being hlinded by science. According to the Irish players, the new teacher is not the sort to disppear into his own textbook.

Yet in his private moments at bome in Bruton, Somerset, the 49-year-old Lancastrian - a league aficionado by upbringing but a good enough union scrumhalf to tour Australia with England in 1975 - is as earnest and scholarly as the most diligent academic. "When I flew back to England after the Ireland-



Murphy's law: Brian Ashton takes the Einstein out of the Irish as the canny Lancastrian prepares his charges to face England in Dublin tomorrow

capacity], I did so armed with every piece of rugby minutiae ginable: videos, statistical breakdowns, fitness reports, analysis charts, anything that might give me more information on the players. I watched and read for two days solid." Had Ashton chosen NASA rather than rugby, man would have walked on Mars years ago.

The attention to detail is phenomenal. After the victory over Wales, Ashton revealed that he had spotted a possible weakness in the play of Neil Jenkins, the dynamics of scrum and line-out es of Neil's Left Side.

opposition full-back who had played virtually all his rugby at outside-half. "Work on his left side," he told his players. "He's not yet comfortable there. He can be exposed." That precision marks him out as a very different animal to Jack Rowell, his partner of six wildly successful years at Bath between 1989 and 1994 and the man he must out-think if Ireland are to cause

a second successive upset at Lansdowne Road tomorrow.

better than anyone, Rowell likes to paint with a broader brush. Given that England's man-toman advantage over Ireland is almost total, he can afford to; thanks to improving standards in the Courage League, which allow skill levels to take care of themselves, England's coach will now be spending his time and energy on getting the indefinables - attitude, focus, confidence - absolutely right.

By contrast, Ashton is en-

The obvious worry for Rowell is that his rival understands more about the likes of Phil de Glanville or Joo Sleightholme and the things that make them tick than anyone in the England set-up, De Glanville and Sleightholme included. "I feel quite mischievous about that," admits Ashton, who, with far less first-hand knowledge at his disposal, constructed a tactical plan sufficiently sophisticated to lure a gifted Welsh back division up any number of self-defeat-

"Let's get this in perspective, though," he says. "At the moment, we've won one game. By a point. The players know they are still in the middle of a fairly bad trot and while I can see potential there, the amount of work still to be done is considerable. The positive thing is that they have shown themselves capable of putting a plan into operation and sticking to it. They did it for an bour against France, at which point they

Ashton is too much of a realist to confidently predict an Irish victory, but he does expectto see another 80 minutes of undiluted concentration. Genial he may be, but as Corkery says: "For all his talk of freedom of very hot indeed on responsihility, both individual and collective. After all the work we put in against Wales, it would have been criminal to lose. And believe me, Brian would have made us feel like criminals had

Price has reason to remember a glorious day in Paris

Eveo with six enforced changes, France are still regarded as favourites when they take on Wales tomorrow for what will be the last time at the Pare des Princes, before the Tricolores move to the 80,000 all-seater National Stadium which is being construct-

ed in the French capital in time side, Fouroux. for football's 1998 World Cup. One of Wa That favouritism does not stem merely from France being able to call upon some talented replacements, it also takes into account their remarkable record against Wales in Paris: it is 22 years since a Welsh side last won in the concrete bowl that

is the Parc des Princes. Like this year's Wales side, the boyos of 1975 were also written off hefore a hall had been kicked. They were fielding six new caps that January day, raw recruits to Test rugby, who

David Llewellyn talks to one of the boys of '75, a victor in Parc des Princes

wards of the stature of Bastiat, the Dax No 8, the hrilliant Bertranne in the backs and a formidable duo at half-back, Romeu, and the man who became coach of the national

that day was Graham Price. At 23 he was already a seasoned campaigner for his club Pootypool. He was grateful, though, to be linking up with his frontrow colleagues from the Gwent club, Charlie Faulkner and Bobby Windsor. Incidentally, it was also Faulkner's debut.

Being with them helped put Price at ease, knowing be was part of what was to become the legendary Pontypool Front Row. However much at ease be may have felt. the young prop would have to cope with for- was quite unprepared for what in five tries to France's solitary

greeted the Welsh team when they trotted out into the cauldron of French rugby. "It's a hell of a stadium," says Price, who is now 45. "The way it is constructed, all the sound tends to bounce hack at you. Obviously the crowd was behind the

ry over the South Africans. They were confident, while we, with six new caps, were being written off, even though we also had some great players in the side [they were captained by the great Mervyn Davies]. But the noise was what I remember most in my first experience of in-

French team, who had not long

before had quite a good victo-

ternational rugby."

However, the Welsh over-came all the odds, including wet and muddy conditions, running



Glory days: Graham Price (far right) tracks Steve Ferwick as he passes the ball in Paris in 1975 Photograph: PA

was scored by Wales' current di-rector of rugby, Terry Cobner, another forward from Pontypool. There was also a try for the debutant Price, a try that will live

touchdown. One of those tries on in the memory of everyone who saw it. It is a score that has been replayed on television every year that Wales revisit Fortress Paris.

Price, who went on to win 41

caps, cannot remember anything of the score. "But it is the same with all my international appearances," he explains. "The matches go by so quickly. And I have seen the try so often on television oow that, in all honesty, the TV view of it has become my memory of it."

For those who may have wing, JJ Williams, hacked ahead for 75 yards. Remarkably, first man up to the hreakdown, having charged upfield from inside his own 25-yard line (Britain was not metric in those dark,

unenlightened days), was Price. He scooped up the hall, which had rolled loose, and plunged juhilantly over the line for a try which earned Wales a 25-10 victory and their higgest winning margin in Paris went on to win the Five Na-

tions' Championship outright.
Thereafter, though, Price was in oo the start of the long run of defeats in Paris. He wants to see an eod to it and suggests that tomorrow Wales have the talent to succeed. "What they need to do is to

play to a pattern, just as we did 22 years ago, and not deviate missed the try, it happened like from it. That should allow them this. Injury time, France al-ready beaten and the Weish they can expand their play as the game progresses. "There must be no repetition

of what happened against Ireland when too often they ran aimlessly, thoughtlessly at the Irish and turned over possession. They must eradicate the basic errors they made two weeks ago when they lost the hall in the tackle.

"It is never easy to win in Paris, hut I hope they do. At least it will spare my family from since 1911. That season Wales having to watch that try yet

. 417

1750.1

are ad

ίù

rean

(Paris and Angel Angel Angel

THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

Francisco (September 1986)

Sales of the sales

Carrie Halling

Company of the last of the las

Sunda Barrellon and the P

ming start fo

Management the course Matt

Allen Paller Paller

to by Vall M. B. State week

The state of the s

And the De Letter let a see &

the same and the last

Charles and the Control of the Sales of

and such that the other

Albanian I was the r

the property of the state of the state of

OW REPOR

SKIHOTLINE

0891 333 110

STISHAPSHOT

9897 500 GO1

aplication to the same

067 300 301

890 100 843

the fire the first source

Same Committee of the 116.

DECEMBER 1

Reaction of the co

Canal Trans.

willian pars to me

1975 France 10 Wales 25 1977 . Hence 16 Wales 1979 France 14 Wales 13 1981 France 19 Wales 15 1983 France 16 Wales 3 1985 France 14 Wales 3 1987 France 16 Wales 3

1989 France 31 Wates 12 1991 - France 36 Wates 3 1995 France 21 Wales 9 Wales team in 1975

J P R Williams (L Welsh); T S R
Dentes (Carolfi), S R Compete
(Bridgerd), R W R Gravell, J J
Williams, Delt) Lienelli, J D.Remin
(Aberaron), G O Enterrite (Carolfi)
G Prins; R W Wheter, R G Fooliar
or (all Pontyphol), A Ministra (Aberaron), S R D Wheter (Saleiresti), T
J Cobrese (Pontyphol), T P. Sentis
Tall Davies (Carolf, Doth Swartship)
Tall Davies (Carolf, Doth Swartship)
G R Davies, Echants, Pilos, Carolfi
version legranch, Penninty (Statistics
version legranch, Penninty (Statistics)

sports letters

Time to give our portsmen a break

Sir: I see and hear the media, dio, giving English cricket a hard time. Why do they do this, I wonder? I saw an interview betweeo Jonathan Agnew and David Lloyd on Sportsnight and wondered who Jonathan Agnew thought he was. If the simple truth is that England failed to get the tail enders out, why bombard these people, whoever they are, with these ridiculous questions? David Lloyd or anyone else could not change the outcome, he answered the question reasonably well, for the same question was asked by Agnew in several different ways. I felt sorry for David Lloyd.

Why do the media expect so much? "It was a wonderful game of cricket, if you were a ncutral," Lloyd said to Agnew. I'm not a neutral but I thought it was a wonderful game of edeket, but then I can see all sportsmen as human beings. I don't expect anything from them. I do want to see England win things but to be endlessly going on at them for not achieving what you want is a waste of time.

I think the England cricket team all deserve medals for putting up with media and national expectations, because I'm afraid it's not about cricket or football or tennis or athletics any more. So we are not the best in the world, what's the problem? There is no problem, just one simple fact: there is no longer a British empire. Long live being a sportsman, enjoying your sport without expectations from anyone else except yourself. KEVIN PETER NOLAN

Wales of anguish

Sir: The continued pro-Walt anti-English bias of Ken Jone and Alan Watkins become wearisome. Rob Wainwright was not "uncertain" about his score, he said he was "short": and for Jones to call the English crowd "insufferable" for cheering an Irish victory comes ill from someone whose nations stadium on match days is surrounded by bawkers selling "I support Wales and anyone who's playing England T-shirts. RICHARD SHAW

Upright citizens

Sir: Now that linesmen are bahitually referred to as "Referees' Assistants", may I be the first to propose formally that the ridiculously old-fashioned word "goalpost" is replaced by the more forward-thinking term 'Crossbar's Assistant"? JOHN BATEMAN Worthing, West Sussex

Far from up-lifting

Sir: Your picture of England forwards practising their line out at Twickenham (The Independent, 31 Jan, page 28) prompts the question: Is rugby the only sport in which coaching is given in the art of cheat ing (e.g. lifting in line-outs)? NORMAN T SHEPHERD

Letters should be marked "Fo publication" and should contain daytime and evening phon numbers. They should be sent to Sports Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL. They may be shortened for reasons of space.

Vialli told to stay put

NICK DUXBURY

Gianluca Vialli and Patrick Kluivert had differing days at the office yesterday, with the Italian being reminded that be will bave to rough it out in west London, while the Dutchman confirmed he would be swapping Amsterdam for Milan. Vialli was reported to bave had cosy chats with Southampton's Graeme Souness, but

Chelsea's managing director, Colin Hutchinson, insisted the striker is not tooking for a transfer. "Gianluca is obviously frustrated that he has been watching from the bench in recent matches," Hutchinson said. "But be is under contract here until June 1999, has certainly

not asked for a transfer, and is

not for sale. Southampton have had their 15 minutes of fame so we can get back to reality. The only time Gianinca will be going to Southampton, as far as I can see, jured in the first minute. time Gianluca will be going to

is as a player with Chelsea next

Kluivert will be seeing a lot of Milan from the end of June. the 20-year-old striker having rejected the advances of Arsenal and Everton to sign a fouryear contract, along with his Aiax team-mate, the utility player Winston Bogarde. Details of Kluivert's salary were not re-vealed, although £2.5m a year was the starting point. Milan, who will enjoy the services of both players for free, already have two other former members of the Ajax academy, Edgar Davids and Michael Reiziger.

on their books. George Graham bas penned a missive to the Football Association after the midfielder Lee Bowyer aggravated an ankle injury playing for England Under-21s. The Leeds manager believes Bowyer - Britain's costliest teenager when he left Charlton for £2.6m - should have spent this week having treatment at his club. The FA insisted he played

their observations on what we see as a medical matter," Graham said. "I don't want to say too much hut we do need clarification on the situation in

case it arises in the future. Ronnie Whelan's future as manager of Southend United will be decided today. A lengthy board meeting was held yesterday following the decision by the FA to charge Whelan with misconduct following an inci-dent at Manchester City last Saturday. Whelan is currently suspended by the First Division club and his assistant, Theo Fo-

ley, has already been dismissed. Bournemouth and Millwall are to have further talks with the Football League after no firm conclusions about the future of the struggling Second Division clubs were reached during a meeting with their representatives yesterday.

Brighton yesterday lost their appeal against a two-point deduction imposed by the FA for pitch invasions during the home game against Lincoln in October.

Argentina back in form **South America**

Reports of Argentina's demise are, it seems, premature. After months of moaning from the critics, ootably Diego Maradona, they produced their best performance of the World Cup

qualifying campaign with an 1-0 away win in Colombia. It was a typically attritional Argentinian performance. The goal arrived early, and they de-fended their lead with dogged determination - especially after having had a man sent off just before half-time.

Argentina also gained re-venge for one of their greatest umiliations: a 5-0 home defeat to Colombia in 1993. Wednesday's win, which silenced a crowd of 60,000 in Barranquilla, also ended Colombia's unheaten run in the qualifying tournament.

A bizarre mistake by goalkeeper Farid Mondragon allowed Claudio Lopez to score the 10th-minute goal which led to Colombia's first home World Cup defeat in 12 years.



around the

Eduardo Berizzo was sent off ous up front.

Paraguay, who beat Peru 2-1 at home and now trail the Colous-bians only on goal difference.

Paragnay are the group's and prise package. Five of their re-maining eight games are in the intimidating. Defenders of the Chaco stadium in Attention, where they have a 100 per-cent record in this tompatient.

Assenting are third, one point ahead of unfanced.

Ecuador, They cantied a major upset with their 4-8 thrashing of Uruguay, who had three players sent off in the last are minutes—despite their was after by Fifa about their behalf as after having severance begins against Chile last year.

Ecnador—yet in play if the home and now trail the Colour ?

world

Mondragon thought that Lopez's long-range shot was going out of play and let it go past him condy to see it bounce into the net. The ball had a strange spin on it," he said. The Argentina defender

for a 45th-minute foul while, nine minutes later. Colombia's Mauricio Sema missed a penalty to complete a bad day for his side, for whom Newcastie'a Faustino Asprilla was innocu-Colombia have been joined

man who led Colombia to the last two World Caps. In the Other game in South America; Bo-livia were held to a 1-1 draw by

Ecuador - yet to play if the World Cup finals - are consided by Francisco Manurana, the

Rupert Metcul WEDNESDAY'S WORLD CUP RESULTS

Struggling Diamonds lose their shine

Non-League notebook RUPERT METCALF

When Rushden & Diamonds embarked on their debut season in the GM Vauxhall Conference back in August, expectations were high. The wealthy North-amptonshire club, who had paid a non-League record transfer fee of £85,000 for the striker who had belped them secure the Beazer Homes League title last

season, were widely tipped to continues to enjoy the support compete for a second successive championship crown.

Instead, Diamonds have been stuck in a struggle against relegation and Carl Alford, their record-breaking purchase from Kettering, is on the transfer list. Alford's awful form has been only one of the problems for Roger Ashby, Rush den's manager - be has also had to cope with an injury crisis. Fortunately for him. Ashby

of his chairman, Max Griggs, and, predictably, he has been busy in the transfer market to try to brighten Diamonds' fortunes. Dover's David Leworthy, Slough's Simon Stapleton and

in recent weeks. With only Bath City beneath them in the Conference table, Rushden are in trouble. They are in 21st place with 25 points.

Kidderminster's Simeon Hod-

son have all moved to Rusbden

just below four clubs - Hayes, Bromsgrove, Dover and Halifax – all on 28 points. Although Rushden's bome

form has been patchy, their gates have held up well - this season's average crowd at Nene Park is 2,308. Tomorrow, though, they face a tough trip to second-placed Macclestield, who are now just four points behind the leaders, Kidderminster Harriers, after Tuesday's 4-0

thrashing of Hednesford.

Europe Group Two emblor= England O Italy 1 (Zota 15)L

Le Pez Bolina 1 (Sovie 27) Crité 1
(P Gonzilez 45), Barrangullius Cottebia O Argentina 1 (C Longr 9), Quitos
Couedor 4 (Iguinesa 6, Delgado 59,
77, Chelle 88) (Unique) (J. Robin 40)
Peru 1 (Perrole 33).

ravel

LICKMOS

ie nuts

THE S

XURT

i how

s in the

icvous

ART

d. the

เกยง

/OI

as bad

ESTO

what

Ohver

ig with

135%

our of

sport

Williams fears trial by media

partments and deal with what-

er you're doing at the time."

Head is still waiting for per-

the car. Almost three years af-ter the fatal accident at the San

Marino Grand Prix, he said: "I

think there is quite a bit on the

car itself that would help support our view." Headehallenges the

accusation that amering col-

Williams confirmed his te

as well as McLaren and Tyrrell

were hopeful of joining the oth-

er teams as signatories to the new

generally believed Ron Denois,

has harboured ambitions of tak-

ng over from Ecclestone.

Nobody wants Bounds.

one. No one could do the

he's a genius, but there is more

than one way to skin a cat."

Although Williams is char-acteristically cantious about his

team's prospects of retaining their drivers' and constructors'

championships this coming sea-

son, both expect Jacques Vil-

leneuve to start with the edge

over his new partner, Heinz-

Harald Frentzen. They are united, also, in tak-

ing little regard of Michael

Schumacher's assertion that his

Ferrari will not be a champi-

onship-winning car this year

"He's always playing down his

chances and I don't believe a

word he says about that,"

raging director of McLaren

PE ALLSOP

>wett reports

raph: Lorraine O'Sulfront

Ashton is too much die

to see another 80 mins

undiluted concentration (g

he may be, but as Cortage

"For all his talk of freels

expression and the real

very hot indeed on top

bility, both individual mi:

lective. After all the works:

in against Wales, it would

been criminal to lose. Ast

lieve me. Brian wouldt

made us feel like criming

Waies' Five Nation

France 10 Wales 2

France 16 Water

France 14 Wals!

France 19 Water

France 16 Water

France 21 Wals!

France 16

1989 France 31 Walst

1991 France 36 Wars1

1993 France 26 Wat:

Wates team is 1975

Devies (C. noll), S P for (Endgend) R W R God, (Endgend) R W R God, (Endgend) Discontinuous (Conference (both times)) Discontinuous (C. Noll)

1995

we tiane so.

and Patrick yesterday of their fiver the death of Ayrwhich starts at Imo-Thursday.

their chief designer, the race direcand Bruynseraede and in officials, are charged pable homicide, will a court at the end of nil of the beginning of May.

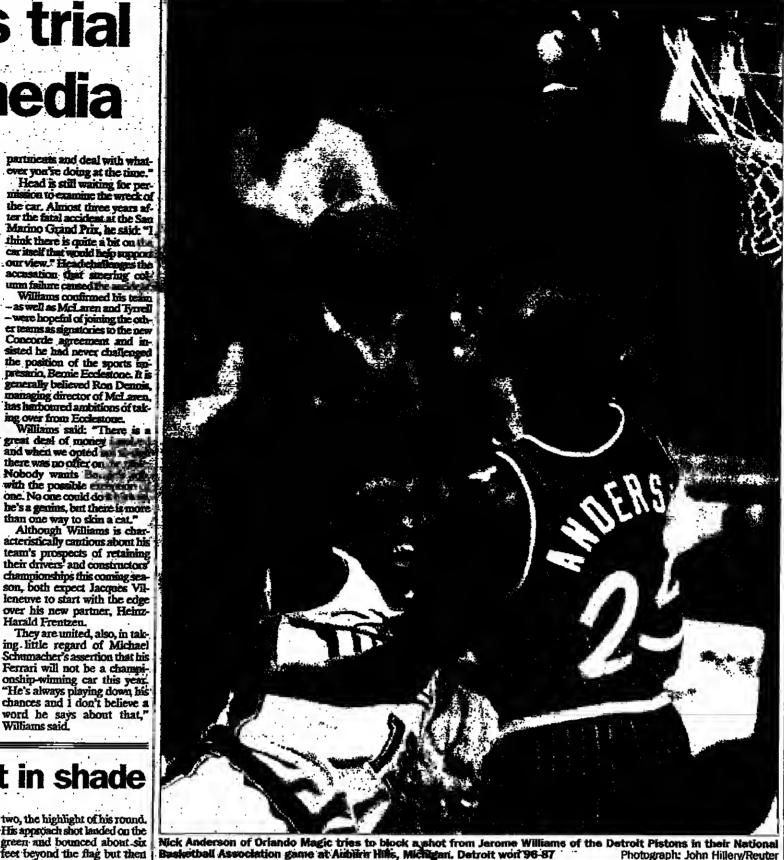
Pabout the case being Cinto a media spectacle. The Lies is not good for in li's a very imnd serious case. He an internationally Yes, I'm worned

Licad for team's technical diilled he was antious to clear be name and talked of the pressure of preparing for a new Formula One season under ulist to confidently preint Irish victory, but he dose the threat of a guilty verdict. He said: "The charge is very seri-ous, it's a criminal case, and we have to defend ourselves to the maximum. It is something I do not want on my record. We have to persuade the judge it is not an appropriate charge.

"It is quite a high profile sub-ject and the trial is something I'm not looking forward to. If I was offered the opportunity of not going, then I don't see a lot of point in being down there.

It is not an ideal situation continuing to work with the trial coming up. The only way to deal with it is to put it in comMagic man hampers Detroit's whizz

صكنا من الاعل



Tuigamala set to leave Wigan

Rugby League

Wigan are resigned to losing their third major rugby union convert in 12 months, with Va'aiga higasmala set to join Newcastle or £500,000. Jack Robinson. the Wigan chairman, met with the unsettled player yesterday and further talks are planned for

chib want to complete the deal by next week to beat the Courage League signing dead-line. Wigan, reported to be £3.3m in debt, sold Scott Quin-nell to Richmond and Martin Offiah jointly to Bedford and London Broncos last summer, the savings on lucrative con-tracts being as important as the £600,000 transfer fees. Thigamala, 27, described his

recent loan spell with Wasps as "a breath of fresh air" and a one-off appearance by the for-mer All Black against Ireland for his native Western Samoa in Dublin rekindled his desire for international rugby once more. He returned to Wigan at the weekend but fared poorly in the

Challenge Cup defeat by St He-lens. The Wigan operations

manager, Devid Bradshaw, said: "Inga has broader ambitions, encompassing international rugby, and we are hoping to be able to satisfy those dreams while he continues to

play for Wigan.
The chairman is due to have further talks with him tomorrow and we expect to resolve the situation one way or the other in the next 24 hours.

"If he is still adament that he wants to fulfil his ambitions elsewhere, we will have to deal with Wigan are desperate to half

their decline, having conceded the cup and Super League dou-ble to rivals St Holens, but financial concerns may dictate their thinking.
The Thigamala deal is believed to be worth f.lm, with
Newcastle having to return the

£180,000 Super League "kyalty" bonus and agree a three-year contract velued at around Wigan would use the money

to keep the Great Britain winger Jason Robinson at Cen-tral Park. He is due to take up a contract with the Australian Rugby League at the end of

Goulding banned

DAVE HADFIELD

The St Helens scrum-half and captain, Bobbie Goulding, has been hammered with an eightgame suspension that means that his club must try to reach

Wembley without him.
Goulding was sent off during last Saturday's Silk Cut Challenge Cup fourth-round victory over Wigan at Knowsley Road for a high tackle on Neil Cowie. A disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds yesterday took a dim view of both the tackle and Goulding's previous record, hitting him with one of the heaviest bans imposed for foul play in recent times.

ints are considering an appeal and Goulding himself could only say: "I'm devastated."
Should Saints reach Wembcy, where they beat the Bradford Bulls to win the Cup last year, Goulding will not be clear to play until the week before the

His suspension also means that he will miss the early rounds of the Super League season, leaving Saints, who have no experienced specialist in the position with whom to replace him, in a real quandary.

Goulding this week withdrewa transfer request and said

Saints, but this ban means that he will be doing so in a nonplaying capacity until the end of

that he wanted to stay with

A League sub-committee is today considering whether oth-er players who joined the brawl after Goulding's tackle should also be punished. The Batley prop, Steve Walk-er, has also been heavily pun-

ished for his sending-off in the tic against Paris St-Germain, He has been suspended for six games. Castleford, another club knocked out of the Cup at the weekend, are planning two friendlies against Wigan before the start of the Super

Lucas Parsons equalled the course record with a nine under par 64 to soatch the spotlight from Tiger Woods in the first IC OI INC AUSUA in Melbourne yesterday.

Woods, who won the Bang-kok Classic in Thailand on Sinday, his fourth tournament victory since turning professional last August, plundered the long holes at Huntingdale to finish five under par at 68 for a share of fifth place. The 21-year-old heavy-hitting American birdied all foor par-fives on the par-73 course to the delight of a large gallery, even though he only used his driver once.

Parsonsied by one from a fel-low Australian, Peter O'Malley, after securing six birdies on the front nine before holing his second shot at the 13th for an eagle the European Tour.

two, the highlight of his round. His approach shot landed on the feet beyond the flag but then spun back into the hole. The eagle helped Paisons to match the course record shared by another

Ronnie McCann, a South African-born American, took a two-stroke lead after the first round of the Dimension Data Pro-Am in Sun City yesterday, going round the Lost City course in a seven-under-par 65. McCann's seven birdies put

him two strokes clear of a group of nine players, including Zim-babwe's Nick Price and Italy's Costantino Rocca of Italy, who are sharing second spot.

pean Ryder Cup captain Seve Ballesteros had a disastrous 82 on his first outing of the year on

Make Car Bernhard Langer.

In stark contrast, the Euro-

en and bounced about six

Cash has to take his chances after defeat

Treating us to reminders of his sublime attacking style, Pat Cash came close, but not close enough, to climinating the fourth seed, Wayne Ferreira, and earning a place in today's quarter-finals of

JOHN ROBERTS

reports from Dubai

the \$1m Dubai Open. The 31-year-old former Wimbledon champion then packed his rackets and prepared to return to London and his role as

orphan of the tour, in limbo be-tween the current generation and the senior circuit, unsure where his next match was com-

Yesterday Cash saved five match points before losing to Ferreira, the 1995 champion, 3-6, 6-2, 7-5. The Australian depends nowadays on wild cards from generous promoters or has to rely on his willpower to see him through tough pre-qualifying events. His progress this week will raise his world ranking from 755 to around 570.

"The public think I've been who run the Davis Cup team retired for a while because I've would be an understatement," he shown towards him by the Australian tennis establishment.

An heroic Davis Cup comwhen the Australians were preparing to topple France, the holders, and is aggrieved at not

been injured," Cash went on, ex- said. "It's been that way pretty pressing disappointment about much since [John] Newcombe the perceived indifference took over, but that's par for the course, so I'm not surprised." Asked if he considered him-

self welcomed more by the tenpetitor during the 1980s, Cash nis fraternity in Britain, his was in Melbourne last month adoptive home, Cash said: "I do. adoptive home, Cash said: "I do, yes, which is sad. I've been in-vited to hit with the British team and the British guys pretty being asked to hit with the squad.
"To say I'm being ignored by Tennis Australia and the people Australia to do anything at all."

Asked if he sympathised Cash, Ferreira said: 'Any time he plays somebody else. I can't afford it when he plays me. I think he's lucky to be playing, and he should play to enjoy it, happy to he playing and oot expecting too much."

Ferreira, unhappy with his own form even though he had helped South Africa reach the quarter-finals of the Davis Cup by defeating Russia in Durban last weekend, trailed Cash 0-5 after 18 minutes of the opening set before pulling his game together.

survived a fraught second game and then failed to convert any of four break points in the third game. Having saved the first match point with a stop volley 61 4-5, Cash wasted two opportunities to crack Ferreira in the 11th game. Ferreira held for 5-6 when Cash mis-hit backhand across on game point. The Australian's tenacity denied Ferreira four more match points on the 12th game before a mis-hit high backhand volley ended his tournament.

In the deciding set, Cash

Winning start for Australia

Woods put in shade

at the top of the table (the fair quality for Fame 6). Paraguay, who heat Pen-Australia opened their tour of South Africa on a winning note despite a brilliant 133 off 121 deliveries by Neil McKenzie home and now trailing yesterday.

The touring team beat a mixprivate ground at Randjes-fontein outside Johannesburg. insert with their 40 ties SNOW REPORT - in association with Thomas Cook Ski Direct

Latest snow and weather reports from 180+ resorts in Europe and

North America.

Phone or fac

0691 333 110

SKI SNAPSHOT

At-a-glance fox guide to snow conditions at 180+ reserts world-

0097 500 601

Where to find the

best snow - by fax.

Cat SKIFAX - the ski facts:

For a fax list of 180+

0990 100 843

... 0897 300 301

Australia were given a fine start of 124 by their openers, Matthew Hayden and Matthew Elliot. Hayden made 60 from 65 balls with five fours and two sizes, while Elliot hit 91 off 106 balls

with four fours and four sixes. Mark Taylor declared at 284 ture of up-and-coming and re- for 6, and Australia seemed well tired players by 19 runs in a set for victory when the Invitarelaxed one-day game with no over limitations against the diamond magnate Nicky Oppen-openers, but McKenzie stole heimer's Invitation XI at his the individual batting honours, private ground at Randjes-smashing 19 fours and a six to lift the Invitation XI to 265 all out.

Around the resorts

TODAY'S NUMBER 3.8m

the armchair football fans we amonal roughlars who: watched Englands Welle Cup defeat by Italy in the conflort of their own bornes, a record for Sky TV The station claims that view reis in pubs and clubs boosted the rotal figure to more than 30ms.

135 190 Light mov 135 190 Snow Russes

American football Spence Fischer, of the Miami Dolphins, will join the Scottish Claymoras as a quarterback in the 1997 World League season and not John Kitma, of Seattle Seehawks, whose signing was an-nounced on Wednesday, Kitna will now join another World League team, pos-sibly London Monarche or Amsterdam Admirals, who have still to receive their

The British Athletic Federation has lost backing from Northumberland County Council for its world cross-country championship trials on 2 March and has a second property of the country of the country championship trials on 2 March and has a second property of the country of th

MRA Adunta 106 Toronto 84; Charlotte 11.3 New Jeses 100; Classiand 83 Indiane 75; Datroit 96 Orlando 87; LA Lakers 100 Mannesota 84; Ven-couer 106 San Artiona 100; Protois 133; Dotton

FIXTURES

7.30 Uniess Stated
NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE
THIRD DIVISION
Colchester v Chester (Z45)

HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF RELAND Premier Division: Bohemiens v Cork City; Dundelk v St. Patrick's Athletic; Shamrock FRENDCh: Brentland v Southempton.

Rugby Union

7.30 unless stated A INTERNATIONALS nce A v Emerging Weles (6.30)

tricts (SA) (7.45).
ANGLO-WELSH Second Division Com-petition Group A: Maesteg v Richmond

(7.0); Bidgend v Beth (7.0); Nestmurton (7.0); Bidgend v Beth (7.0); Nestmurton (7.0); Nestmurton (7.0); Nestmurton (7.0); Nestmurton (7.0); Selev Carribrige University (7.15); Usurella v Leests (7.0); Selev Carribrige University (7.15); Usurella v Leests (7.0); Propurated v Betten (7.0); Selev Carribrige University (7.15); Usurella v Leesten (7.0); Backethall

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bulleta v Thames Valley Tigers (7.30).

SPORTING DIGEST

Tim Munton, Warwickshire's new cap-tain, hes been awarded a benefit in 1998 as reward for helping the coun-ty to great success in his 12 years at Edgbaston. SHETHELD SHEED (Trind day of four) Hobert-South Aparties 387 till A Johnson 91, I C Soud-of 709 and 127 for 3 bit P Feel 63not; terrains 248 (R 7 Poning 126; J C Souden 5-43).

Football Fellark's Tennents Scottish Cup fourth-round the with Durdermline at Brockville tomorrow has been made all ticket.

tomorrow has been trade all ticket. Raith Rovers were yesterday fined £10,000 by the Scottish League management committee in Glasgow after breaking Lengue rules for the second morth nutning by including three Scondinavan trialists against Dunfermalie Rovember when the rules allow only two. Last month they were fined £5,000 for including the detender Seen Dennis with Our re-registrang him, eiter he had been re-registering him, eiter he had been swed to go to an English club on tri-

THE WARDINGS OF THE STREET OF T A Jury, Per 33, April Manediaty v Carlo April Toe 15 April Trenmere v Mani (from 15 Feb). WEDDESCON'S LATE RESULTS: Bu

Langine Premier Division: Exure 1 Botton Town
1. Perchas Langue Premier Division: Lucypool
1. Perchas Langue Premier Division: Lucypool
1 Langue 2. Pract Bivision: Puctivasidad 2 Wisney
1 Langue 2 Division: Puctivasidad 2 Wisney
1 Langue 2 Division: Puctivasidad 2 Wisney
1 Vale Q Langue Chenge 1 Division: Elementy 5
Marchald 2 Langue Chenge Branco Wisney
1 Langue Place Under Coy 1 Chenge Wisney
1 Langue Place Under Coy 1 Chenge Place
1 Langue Chenge Place A Carder O (at Paugh
Langue Chenge Alleria Palence A Carder O (at Paugh
Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge 1 (Columy 25) Printed 1 (Division
1 Langue Chenge
1 Langue
1 Langue Chenge
1 Langue
1 Langu

Miguel Angel Mertin's second European Four victory has earned hem the Johnnie Welker golfer of the month exent for January. A fast-hole bride gave Martin a one-shot win over the Amencan Fred Couples in the Heinelen Classac in Pertit, taking him into second place in the European Ryder Cup points table, passessed black Pro-All (black City, 34) Lineling first-houst scopes (filt or fir intelling statement Solvan (18), 67 fo Lidok (18), A Hernen Den), M Sonder (SM), P Pro-Com), T Johnstone Com), T Sport (SM), P Pro-Com), State (SM), A Herner Den), M Sonder (SM), E Rocce (CM), E Garmer (My), State (SM), P McGarley, W Schutze (SM), B Fappes (SM), D Service (SM), S sun Staden SAL, S Luncote (SAL), P McGrate, M Schutta (SAL, B Paopes (SAL), D Garmanor (SAL), 69 G Evera, P McAcci, M McKrens, O Bottes (SAL), M Mutriess (SAL), Gerrott, J Wede (Paul, N Pen-mit (SAL), O Frontit, J Wede (Paul, N Pen-mit (SAL), O Frontit, J Wede (Paul, N Pen-mit (SAL), O Frontit, SAL (Paul, SAL), D L T Dockie (Nama, A McKren (SAL), PD L Westonool, P Hernitten, I Pymen, A Serdywell, E Desty, A Cytics, I Jorman, A McKren, TZ M Richarder, N Benge, S Wabster, M Archer, TZ R No-frainer, P Price, T3 M Composed (PGL), P Bules, G Eme-son, O Higgins, J Meltor, A Hunter, O Tapping, M Jernes, D Smyth, J Bioletton, AUSTRICLIAN MASSTERIS (Manusca) Son, O Pagnet, J. Seech, A. Patter, O Happing, M. James, O Smyth, J. Bioderson.

ARSTERLIAN MASTERS (Believerne) Leading Sist-coand coores (New select States): 64. I. Paracca, 65 P. O'Malley, 67 M Weer (Cart), R. Geson (Cart), 65 Proceed; 64. I. Paracca, Cart, R. Geson (K2), S. Bouser, I. Main (US), S. Jac. 86 S. Roberton, P. Senier, G. Meterbad (N2), P. Loneri, M. Wheelhoute (V2), TO S. Alan, K. Duze, M. Cayton, R. Bacteste, A. Bontonton, B. Cotes, 6. Parage, W. Grady, R. Duze, S. Cart, J. Townson, C. Parage, W. Grady, R. Duze, S. Cart, J. Townson, C. P. Lackson, G. B. Alance, T. P. Bacter, J. Townson, G. Lackson, G. B.

Loading teinfi-round source: 207 D Park (Burgal Valley) 68 71 68. 22.0 L Donald (Bac-curelled) 72 70 88. 22.1 6 Taylor (Thorpe Hall) 71. 68 71. 233 G Wolsterholme (Weeth Springs) 73 70 70. 226 R First 0481 73 70 73.

Carl Fogury crashed brice yesterday dur-ing Superbrite testing at Laguna Seca. in California. On his first run in the mon-ing Fogury banged his head when his

916 locked up and then high-wided when he was on a flying lap during the af-ternoon. He clocked 1min 26.893eec over 0.7sec behind the American John

Rugby Union

Speed skating

Speed alcathing Joans Villiams, of the Aldwych Speed Club, Guildford, clocked 49sec to take a bronze medal in the 500 metres on Wednesdey at the European Youth Olympic tournement in Sundawsl, Swedon, bohind the Italian paik, Merta Caprusco and Keti Zini. Earlier in the day, in the semi-final. Williams skutted 48,7sec to break the British record.

Terminis
DUBAL Orbit Singlish, present resent: R Rippost
Novice to J Sancher (Sp. 9-3 S.2; J Mount (Cr. Rep)
In H Claude (Sp. 9-3 S.2; J Mount (Cr. Rep)
In H Claude (Sp. 9-3 S.2; Mounter (Sp. M. P
Carl (Mail 3-3 6-5 2 T-6; B Armanus; Chost M S
Univers (St. Rep)
In H Counter (Sp. 1-4 6-4
Indiana (Sp. 9-1)
In M Pipopo (Just 6-3 6-3; R Remaining (IS) In S
LaPina, (Sp. 9-3 6-3 6-7 6-4; C Weeder (IS) In J P
Persons for 6-2 5-6; B Sense (IS) In J Sense
In M Pipopo (Just 6-3 6-7; R Sense
In J Sense
In Mail (Sp. 9-4)
I

(Rush of Disease), (Iz Rep) 6-3 6-3, LTA ABERTS SCITILLITY (Chiquest) Bioglos, non-mal revents V Luthor (Prin Iz N Wass (18) 7-5 7-5; L Malginn (180) bit A Muser (Iz Rep) 6-6-5. Zerodning (Sens) of A Restate (Prin 6-3-6-4, D Nam Un-thorn (180) bit C (Magnet) 6-3, 6-3, 6-2, 7 Reputs (180) bit T Leithern (Nam 6-2-0-6-6-4; A Richard (180) bit T Leithern (Nam 6-2-0-6-6-4; A Richard (180) bit T Leithern (Nam 6-2-0-6-6-4; A Delignoto (180) bit E Lement (Ran) 6-2-6-3. on a Lorente, volve 2, 6-3. LEA WOMERS SAURLINE (Minninghous) Singles, thind remark 1, 4ct 10th tot 1 Laterner (68) 6-4 6-1; 7 Polistick (Minle) bit 1 Laterner (68) 6-4 6-1, 6-1, 6-2; 8 Schools (68) tot 1, Cross (62) 6-1, 6-2; C Toylor (68) tot 0 Nember (Fun) 6-4 8-2.

ON WEDNESDAY IT WAS THEM.

Total Sales: £25,707,786, Prize Fund: £19,477,343 |45% of ticket sales plus £6.108,840 Superdraw funding). CATEGORY Match 6 (Jackpot) € 555.556 £10,000,008 £1,197,273 Match 5 plus bonus ball £669.00 Match 5 1,117 £1,608.642 Match 3 £19,438,656 628,015 d tiown to nearest (1): (38, atc. Players must be 16 or

IT GOULD BE YOU. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY in the event of any discrepancy in the above, the date contained in Cornelot control computer system shall preven

Call Ski Direct on 01733 33 55 14



o CERT manisus com:£1 Billionic - Helpfiner 0090 133 34

165 170 Protection 200 225 Mainly days

(Williams (boll) three); Jee (Abertson), G Edward C. Q Price, R W Windso, Alli-er (ell Pont) coli, A Jiana avon), G A D Wheel Sassi-J. Cobner (Panypon), P B P B Bandes (San) Info Sail T M Davies trapt hete San Secreta: Tries Ference, Oct.

G. H. Davier, Edwards, Prass

vention Ference, Penaltyfes

Paraguay are the groups prise package. Five of the braining eight ganes at a himidating i belinder Chact " stidium it Asse. record in this tourname.
Argentina are hind point ahead of union about 1 feet and 1 feet

players sent off in the ba minutes despite baggs by i-ifa about their best wher having seven ment against Chile last wat. Echador - yel in part World Cup intab - area by Francisco Manual man who led Colombia Lan two World Cure his er game in South America five were held to a life

Orde in La Paz. Rupert Me. ORLD CUP RESULTS and land, play of a first of South America

Andread Andrea

new coach, page 26

England must put in hard work



Glenn Moore says Glenn Hoddle undermined his World Cup campaign by making too many changes

t is the biggest word in the football lexicon, higger than catenaccio, higger than Niki Papavasiliou, the Cypriot who gave Newcastle's shirt-stenciller nightmares. The word is "if" and, like maoy a beaten manager, Glean Hoddle was resorting to it in the aftermath of Wednesday night's defeat to Italy.

If that bad gone in, it would be a different story," he said in reference to Matt Le Tissier's wayward 41st-minute header. Morning glory? Definitely maybe.

Unfortunately for Hoddle the difference between taking and missing chances is usually what matters at this rarified level, as Gianfranco Zola showed. Not that Italy's finishing was quite as good as Hoddle suggested. They had one shot at goal and it went in," he bemoaned. That overlooks one excellent save by Ian Walker from Zola, a bad miss by the Chelsea striker, and two opportunities wasted by Dino Baggio. Five clear chances -more than England, for all their huffing and puffing, snap-shots and cheap shots, created all night. Puoch-drunk land appear more dangerous

than they were. Hoddle sought to justify Le Tissier's inclusion by saying: "It is not a gamble when you feel the game is going to be tight and the door might oeed to be unlocked. Le Tissier, with his talent, could do that."

Tissier's ability, did he not play him earlier? As Scotland found on Tuesday night, even the lesser international defences oeed unpicking. Le Tissier and Shearer may have played together for Southampton but no one would have suspected it on the strength of their previous joint-outings with England, in-cluding a full 90 minutes against Romania in late 1994.

The pair were like strangers in the dark, exchanging barely a handful of passes all night. Hoddle admitted as much afterwards. Oddly. Shearer did attempt to find Le Tissier early in the second period when he would usually shoot. A waste, as Le Tissier was beat-

en to the hall. That happened too often. His mental anticipation was as slow as his physical acceleration. Unused to the wiles and guiles of Italian defenders, he was beaten to the ball seven times and just as frequently balked. More unexpectedly his passing lost possession (10 times) as of-

involved twice as often in an hour as Zola was in 90 minutes. but that reflected England's dominance of possession. Unlike Le Tissier, Zola oever stopped, he was always running off the ball, or harrying defenders who were on it.

The Saint tried but an early incident betrayed him. A misunderstanding meant he misread a Graeme Le Saux pass down the line. Angelo Di Livio went to collect and Le Tissier's shoulders slumped. Then, as he turned to mooch unfield, he suddenly straightened, as if remembering an instruction, and rushed Di Livio. The Italian, surprised, cannooned his clearance into Le Tissier and was lucky to escape with a goal-kick. An admirable effort, but neither automatic nor often repeated. Perhaps if he played for a club where he was less indulged, it would be - he oeeds the example Gianhica Viaili would set,

Italy worked like metronomes. Cesare Maldini had reason to be grateful for this undervalued legacy from Arrigio Sacchi: it led to the goal.
It began with David Beck-

ham midway in the: Italian Angelo Peruzzi made Eng- half. Pressed by Paolo Maldini, he passed to Gary Neville who, confronted by Pierluigi Casiraghi, moved the ball on to Sol Campbell. Zola closed him down and the ball went back, less accurately. Casiraghi, who had already clattered Neville, rushed in and the defender had to hit bopefully for-So why, if he is so sure of Le ward. The ball was collected by Fabio Cannavaro and, nine unpressurised passes later. Alessandro Costacurta picked out Zola's rug.

An exception? No. Remember Casiraghi forcing Ian Walker to hit a hurried secondhalf clearance? That led, 14 passes later, to Baggio running oo to Demetrio Albertini's pass and chipping over. "Good players working hard," as George Graham once said of Milan, "that's their secret."

Apart from the virtues of hard work, which comes naturally to most English players, what else can be learned from Italy? Not to make too many oew coach, their side had seveo survivors from the one which drew with Germany in Euro96, England had four.

Injuries enforced several but the dropping of Gareth Southgate was curious. "I felt his fitness level had not recovered since his injury." Hod-

The midfield four was solid but there was a lack of drive in



the centre, with Le Tissier too static and McManaman easily shackled, It meant Shearer was left isolated. Les Ferdinand did not appear to he the answer, he was even less involved than Le England have a better record Tissier and his arrival made. England as predictable as Scotland were when lumping the ball

at Duncan Ferguson. Teddy Sheringham is injured and Nick Barmby out of form but Merson, mobile, strong, quick to shoot and in rich form, should England oeed his guile, but has he the legs or the discipline?

It was England's first defeat in 36 home World Cup matches and their second defeat of any kind in 29 games. That the other loss was against Brazil, in June 1995, underlines England's continued failure to overcome the very best - against the leading quartet of Argeotina, Brazil, Germany and Italy they have

I6 matches (and only then be-cause Stuart Pearce's goal-line handball against Brazil in 1990 was oot spotted). Fortunately against Poland, and will be defending a 24-year eight-game un-beaten record when they travel to Katowice in May for what has become a key game - simply to make sure of coming second in the group, and thus gaining, at least, a play-off place.

only woo once in 10 years and

beat Moldova at home in April. First up is a friendly, against Mexico. While Hoddle is right to welcome a first chance at experimenting without risk, Eng-land are unlikely to derive much benefit. More interesting will be the atteodance, anything less than 40,000 will suggest Hoddle's honeymoon period is

Italy full of pride and passion

Italy was a place full of pride land at home in a World Cup yesterday - the day after their qualifier. Most Italians assumed yesterday - the day after their qualifier. Most Italians assumed football team's I-0 win over a place in the 1998 finals was England in a World Cup qualifier at Wemhley.

"Historic victory at Wemb-ley," declared the Tuttosport daily newspaper. "Now we are tosport. "Cesare Maldini, 24 the lions." Its headline "Zola years after Ferruccio Valcareggenio, Italia si" oceded no translating. Gianfranco Zola, the diminutive Sardinian who scored Italy's winner and who is all too familiar to English fans as a Chelsea striker, was the toast of the nadon.

"It's Zola, it's Italy," said the Gazzetta dello Sport, above a pic-ture of the jubilant player twist-ing away from goal with a finger raised. "Wembley is ours." truly over.

The hard-fought win made have released years of pent-up World Cap results, page 26

Italy the first team to beat Eng-frustration among Italian funs.

now assured.

The new coach, Cesare Maldini, received many tributes. "A joh late last year, victory Italian style," said TutAfter years of s gi, leads an Italian team in takhave beaten England may times in the past but the only previous occasion they have done so in England was in November 1973, when they again won I-0 at Wembley. That team was coached by Valcareggi, and the

goal scored by Fabio Capello, now Real Madrid's coach. Wednesday's win seemed to

ing," said Luciano Nizzola, the oewly-appointed head of the Italian football federation and the man who gave Maldini his After years of stinging criti-

"It was an heroic undertak-

cism and lacklustre performances under Arrigo Sacchi, the cautious coach who led Italy to the 1994 World Cup fi- event in Birmingham, with nal and yet whose team rarely Shirli-Ann Siddall and Lucie produced entertaining football, the performance at Wemhley proved cathartic.

The players were the same but a new spirit was detected in their performance. "It is as if the new national team, regaining its old memory, had wiped out in just 90 minutes all of the most recent displays under Sacchi," Tuttosport said.

Rusedski ready to continue his climb

con

Greg Rusedski cominued he re-cent winning run with a com-fortable straight-sets unitory over Alejandro Hernandez in the first round of the Salose
Opeo in California
The British No 2 who climbed 17 places from 56 to 85 in the ATP world rankings earlier this week after his appearance in the final of the Croatian

indoor championship, was rarely troubled by his Mexican opposent and won 6-3, 6-4 Further victories in California could see Rusedski, who is seeded No 7 in San Jose, rise above his highest-ever world ranking of 33, which he achieved in January last year. Rusedski later tasted further

success in the first round of the doubles with his German playing partner, Alex Radulesca They recorded a straight-sets vic-tory over Sweden's David Ekerot and the American Jeft Tarango, winning 7-5, 6-3.

Steffi Graf, who has been troubled by a knee injury, has withdrawn from oext week's WTA tournament in Hanover and may also miss Germany's Fed Cup match against the Czech Republic next month. If "I very much regret that I' can't play in Hanover, but I have

to first allow the injury that appeared in Tokyo to heal completely," Graf said. Graf, who has been forced to

stop all training, had to with-draw from the Toray Pau Pacific Open two weeks ago because of a severely-aggravated patella-tendon of the left knee, at the bottom front of the kneecap. She saw her doctor in Heidelberg yesterday.

The knee problem first tron-

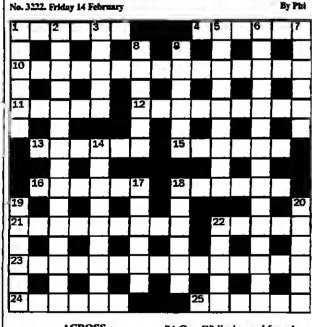
bled Graf in June while she was preparing for Wimbledon, In a October she was forced to with draw in the semi-finals at Leip! zig because of it.
The German's appearance

in the Fed Cup match early next month depends on the results of another examination next week! A spokesman for Graf said "What's important is that Steffi

is completely healthy and can appear pain-free at further Grand Slam tournaments this year." Britain is guaranteed a finalist in the LTA women's satellite Ahl meeting in the semi-finals today. In yesterday's quarter-fi-oals Siddall thrashed Karen Cross 6-I, 6-2 and Ahl defeated the national junior champion, Louise Latimer, 6-4, 6-1. In the other semi-finalm Britain's Claire Taylor faces Tatiana Poutshale from Pale

Poutchek from Belarus. Dubai report, page 2

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Hint recalled by her playing card-game (6)
 4 Rank organises
 kader (6)
- 10 Telegenic earl broadcast about political event (7, 8) 11 Interrogate old King badly (5) 1 English period provides inter-12 Correspondent's enclosure taking a day to finish (9) 13 Song's expression of surprise
- about rejection of benefit (6) 15 King is imprisoning a Queen and Emperor (6) 16 Believe Church has little
- power in performance (6)
 18 First to hide in dark-coloured boat... (6)
 21 ... 1925 at sea? [2, 3, 4]
 22 Man getting rid of it or man holding on to it? (5)
 23 Trendy place ahead of the rest, giving reasons for taking it easy (8, 3, 4)

24 One Biblical vessel found round about a place in Turkey (6) 25 Count Dracula's heart is after

no end of gore (6)

Pain in the neck about name involved in surprising defec-tion – but it's a bluff! (10, 5) Country sport beginning to ruin a student (5) There's agreement in taking

in nothing from this instrument (9) Source of garbled statements

(7, 8) Make bare or clothe? (6) Being clusive is insolent (6) Board having place for col-

Problemed by Newspaper Publishing PLC. | Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Marror Colour Print, St

Back news available from Historic Newspapers, 01998 840370

Priday 14 February 1997

BANBEROUE SCOUCH U O M N A R E COOMBOOM CHEATE R S E R G O DIVIENATE PISTOL E S R F A L E COURAGEOUS

14 Raring to go? See Eve rare and go, possibly (9)17 Radio's an oppressive thing a short yard away (6)

18 Signify what's not found in

river? (6)

20 Successful student half-sees

exam results (6)

22 Comment suggesting isn't believing? (2, 3)

promising "pur chaos."

At least, that is how they intend to start. "It would be remiss of us not to give England

Away from the role-playing, however, both Ashton and Staples were at pains to point out that Ireland were in a positioo

Ashton pledges warm welcome for England was given a clean bill of health.

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT

epons from Dublin

Brian Ashton's purist approach to rugby is beginning to rub off the Irish. The eternal underdogs are not simply promis-ing chaos when they go toe-to-toe with Eogland in Dublin tomorrow, they are

a traditional fire and fury welcome," grinned Ashton, four weeks into his post as Ireland's coaching adviser and enjoying every minute of it. By way of emphasis, his view was backed by Jim Staples, the captain. "I think we'll look to make the first few minutes a bit lively," he

to play some serious rugby as well as play the may em card. very closely at the England side I know many of them quite intimately from my days at Bath and with two thirds of the Irish team playing their club rugby in

the Courage League, the players know even more about their opponents than I do, but we have not paid them any greater at-tention than we paid the French or the Welsh. Outle honestly, I'm more interested in the rugby we hring to the table ourselves. "We've seen two England teams of late: the one that struggled to beat Argentina be-

fore Christmas and the one that turned it on in the second half against the Scots a fortnight ago. On that occasion, they showed the rugby of which they are capable if you let them play, but I would say now that the Irish are well able to produce something of similar quality." The Irish trained in Limerick

gifted centre, both play tomorrow after recovering from hand and rib injuries respectively. Nick Popplewell, the most ex-perienced forward in the home pack, has seen off a pulled hamstring and takes his place in the front row while Paddy Johns, the in-form lock from Saraceus, showed no ill effects from a head wound suffered in training on Monday. Wales will owe a buge debt to their centre Allan Bateman if they tear up the form book by

David Corkery, the himd-side

Jonathan Bell, Northampton's

beating France in Paris tomor-row. Bateman missed the defeat against Ireland, having undergone knee cartilage surgery and his absence confirmed just how much Wales need him. "Allan's return has given us a great hoost," the scrum-half, Robert Howley, said. "We

missed his variation."

Price right in '75, page 26

Prost acquires Ligier F1 team

yesterday and their entire squad

Motor racing

Alain Prost, France's former quadruple world champion, team, Ligier, after he agreed a contract with Peugeot to use its engines from 1998. The deal was struck after Eddie Jordan. whose team have a contract with Peugeot, gave up his agreement. The new set-up, which will be named after Prost, will be officially unveiled

Max Mosley, the head of the

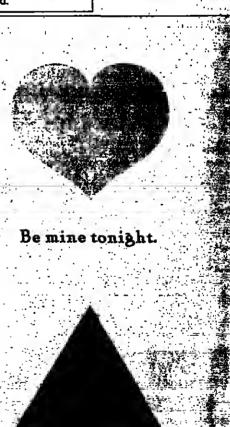
sport's governing hody, the FIA, and Bernie Ecclestone, the vice-chairman, were both keen to see the team line up on the grid for the first Grand Prix of he sesson in Australia in

The team will bear the name Prost-Mugen-Honda for the 1997 season until the Peugeot agreement begins at the start of the following year. However, Jordan, realising that a Ligier team headed by Prost, 41, would be a threat to a new contract with Peugeot, held out, despite all the other teams having

giveo their assent to Prost's acquisition, which required a unanimous vote for the change to go ahead.

Prost's compatriot Olivier rains, the winner of more section's Monaco Grand Prix, and Shinji Nakano, of Japan, will be the team's drivers next season. Peugeot have supplied en-

gines to Jordan for the past three years, gaining their best result when Rubens Barrichello, of Brazil, and Eddie Irvine finished second and third respectively in the 1995 Canadian Grand Prix.



Ditto.

ERTIAIN'S BEST SELLING PREMIUM HAND PULLED ALE SINCE IT

حكذا من الاحل

the crumiding regime, the Conservative Party and the Foreign Office have been drawn

man the Land of the second Parkik Freeze beer and the the Metale were consisted the Liberty D. A. S. Ville Straine greent commons dans ton the ment of the state and ta & come providence precipation large wife Mr. to happenen icharied seeds that Bustains had who Albanian govern-THE O' DISTRIBUTED seem in deep supporting Bang divings busting

Manteldimet of the Same Commence desired. & kotheman; Mr Mr Magand in hackbench description in the se Butch delican new and of shired for spelite sails -Company of the transfer of the Alexander

demonstration of the control of the the last many alle of the level of definition to the service of the ser appearing the street of the st

parties continued on the Mass. Putille mention of the state appeal of the a transfer of the property of th of their tenancy a bignie 'et' fregente fentie.

Thelamed car free estate.